

FBIS

DAILY REPORT

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Soviet Union

Vol III No 103

26 May 1983

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PRAVDA ON EUROPEAN NUCLEAR-FREE ZONE PROPOSALS

PM231115 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 83 First Edition p 5

[Vitaliy Menshikov "Commentator's Column": "Relevant Guidelines"]

[Text] The peace-loving public has noted with satisfaction that the Warsaw Pact states are in favor of proposals for the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the globe. In their Prague Political Declaration they "come out in favor of holding appropriate talks on these issues."

Growing interest is generated, in particular, by the idea once put forward by Bulgaria for creating a nuclear-free zone in the Balkans. This has met with support in countries in that region and in many other countries. The Finnish Government, for its part, has formulated ideas on a nuclear-free zone in northern Europe. Sweden has put forward an initiative for creating a zone in central Europe free from nuclear weapons.

All these are important, topical issues. The adoption of concrete measures to implement proposals on nuclear-free zones would help stop the buildup of nuclear arsenals, lessen the risk of nuclear conflict, and ultimately help to deliver mankind from the threat of nuclear missile conflagration.

The USSR supports the creation of zones free from nuclear weapons, regarding them as an important means of strengthening the peoples' security. The Nonaligned Movement supports the creation of nuclear-free zones in various parts of the world.

A desire to transfer this matter to the plane of practical decisions can be observed. The other day Greek Prime Minister A. Papandreou sent a message to the leaders of Bulgaria, Romania, Yugoslavia, Albania, and Turkey proposing the holding of a series of meetings to promote the transformation of the Balkans into a nuclear-free zone.

The development and consolidation of good-neighborliness, cooperation, and the principles of peaceful coexistence are a substantial trend in interstate relations in the Balkans in the eighties. In spite of this, U.S. and NATO imperialist circles are trying to impose on the region the role of "nuclear powder keg," making use for this purpose of American military bases in Greece and Turkey, "the only countries in the Balkans," AP confirmed the other day, "on whose territory nuclear weapons are, as is known, deployed."

In the nuclear age the danger of world war and the forces engaged in the struggle against it have grown simultaneously. People's attitude toward the problems of nuclear disarmament, including the creation of nuclear-free zones, makes it possible today to see clearly who, on this question of vital importance for the peoples, follows the guidelines of detente, and who follows pointers from across the ocean leading to the brink of the abyss.

CEMA COOPERATIVE CHIEFS HOLD WARSAW CONFERENCE

PM252014 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 22 May 83 p 3

[TASS report under the rubric "News from Abroad": "Cooperative Workers Meet"]

[Text] Warsaw [no date given], -- A conference of chairmen of the CEMA member countries' central cooperative unions and councils devoted to cooperation among socialist states within the framework of the International Cooperative Alliance has been held here. A protocol on the results of its work has been signed. Commenting on the cooperative workers' meeting, Soviet delegation head M.P. Trunov, chairman of the USSR Tsentsosoyuz Board, noted that the conferees heard a report on topical questions relating to the activities of the CEMA member countries' central cooperative organizations. It was noted that, fulfilling the decisions of the fraternal communist and workers parties, cooperative workers in socialist states are making a major contribution to their countries' social and economic development. A long-term targeted program for cooperation among the CEMA member countries' central cooperative unions and councils in 1983-1990 was approved at the conference.

IZVESTIYA ON CEMA COMMISSION MEETING IN HUNGARY

PM260915 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Text] Budapest (TASS) [no date given] -- The 40th session of the CEMA Standing Commission on Cooperation in the Field of the Food Industry has been held in Balatonszemes. It examined the tasks stemming from CEMA Executive Committee decisions and defined measures to fulfill them. The commission discussed progress in implementing the long-term targeted program for cooperation in the field of agriculture and the food industry and in particular the agreements concluded on its basis for improving technology and equipment in the meat and canning industry. Generalized material was examined on forecasts of the development of the CEMA countries' food industry through the year 2000. During the commission session, the delegation leaders held a consultation on expanding cooperation in introducing advanced scientific and technical achievements and production experience at food industry enterprises. The session was held in a businesslike and friendly atmosphere, in a spirit of complete mutual understanding.

BLOC TRADE UNION JOURNALISTS MEET IN MOSCOW

PM251337 Moscow TRUD in Russian 25 May 83 p 1

[Text] A conference of representatives of the socialist countries' trade union journals covering questions of cultural and educational work opened in Moscow yesterday. Representatives from Bulgaria, Hungary, the GDR, Mongolia, Romania, the Soviet Union, and Czechoslovakia are participating in it.

AUCCTU Secretary L.A. Zemlyannikova opened the conference with an introductory address. The report "The Educational Functions of the Club at the Modern Stage and the Tasks of the Trade Union Press in Propagandizing Cultural and Educational Work" was delivered by L. Ya. Alekseyeva, chief editor of the journal KLUB I KHUDOZHESTVENNAYA SAMODEYATELNOST.

The conference participants are exchanging experience of work in involving labor collectives in actively and creatively resolving socioeconomic tasks. They will visit the village Palace of Culture and Technology of the Tomilino Poultry-Raising Production Association and the Lenin Komsomol Motor Vehicle Plant culture center and will meet with the capital's scientists and trade union and club workers.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA SCORES NATO EXPANSION PLANS

PM232047 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 May 83 First Edition p 3

["Military-Political Review" by KRASNAYA ZVEZDA international observer Captain Second Rank V. Kuzar: "NATO 'Extends Geography'"]

[Text] The biggest NATO naval exercises of recent time -- codenamed Ridex -- lasted for almost a month in the Caribbean region. Taking part were 78 ships and 400 aircraft from the United States, Britain, and the Netherlands. Assessing the exercises, U.S. Admiral J. Watkins said that the holding of the exercises and the participation of the bloc allies were designed to "let it be understood...that we (NATO) have...the potential to transfer our troops there" so as "if necessary" to influence the development of events in the region. Thus, yet again the intention of the NATO military-political leadership to extend the geography of the North Atlantic bloc beyond the bounds of its so-called "area of responsibility" has been shown in practice.

The desire to influence world politics and interfere in the internal affairs of other countries' peoples was already implicit in the very idea of the creation of NATO -- this most aggressive military-political organization of international imperialism. However, for a time this desire had no open manifestation beyond the originally established bloc borders, which embrace the North Atlantic region to the north of the Tropic of Cancer. By the end of the seventies the situation had changed sharply.

By the time the policy of international detente was becoming a determining factor in the development of relations between countries, the prestige of the Soviet Union and the socialist community countries had considerably increased, and the national liberation movement had achieved great successes. In that situation imperialist forces, primarily the U.S. ruling circles, tried to "restore control" over world development. A course toward fueling international tension and escalating interference in the affairs of many countries of the world was adopted.

At the same time, realizing that in the new situation the United States could not cope with the role of "world gendarme" on its own, the Washington administration demanded that a number of gendarme functions be transferred to NATO and the borders of this bloc's activity extended. In particular, in 1980 J. Carter, who was then U.S. President, said: "The North Atlantic alliance, originally created for West Europe, is now being forced to defend its interests in other regions of the world too." The current U.S. defense secretary, C. Weinberger, expressed himself even more frankly on this problem: "It happens that we and our allies have turned out to be markedly dependent on regions which are subject to serious instability. We obtain many vitally important resources precisely from those regions of the world, and in those regions certain countries are well armed and are hostile toward us...By relying purely on our own forces we cannot rebuff all the numerous dangers which might arise!"

NATO Secretary General J. Luns and U.S. General B. Rodgers, supreme commander in chief, NATO Allied Armed Forces in Europe, are active supporters of the "collective defense of the common interests" of NATO countries beyond the bounds of the bloc's borders. These, for instance, are the words of the former: "The global threat looming over the West's security now extends beyond the geographic bounds established...by the north Atlantic bloc." The latter has on several occasions proposed extending NATO's zone of action to the Indian Ocean, the southwest and Southeast Asia regions, and the Caribbean.

Problems of extending the bloc's borders have become a topic of discussion at NATO conferences at the highest level. In 1982 a routine session of the NATO military Planning Committee was held in Brussels. Its communique includes a proposition on the possibility of NATO member countries deploying forces "outside the region" of the bloc. The eighth section of the communique was completely devoted to a justification of the North Atlantic military alliance's "right" to operate beyond the bounds of the borders defined during the period of its creation. Thus, imperialism's latest "strategy of recklessness" -- the strategy of global interference -- was given juridical form.

Practical measures arising from this strategy were not long in coming. What is more, many of them began to be implemented long before 1982. This applies primarily to the increase in the combat might of the bloc's armed forces. Back in 1979 the well known decision on NATO "arms upgrading" and the deployment in Europe of U.S. medium-range missiles appeared. Considerable efforts were expended to strengthen the bloc's northern and southern flanks as possible bridgeheads for expanding interference in the fates of other countries. The United States created the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force. In 1980 the Western European Union Council lifted the former restrictions on the tonnage of FRG warships, which opened the way for West German militarism to create ships of any class, including aircraft carriers. Vice Admiral A. Bethge, inspector (commander) of the FRG Navy, said on this score: "We must be prepared for the... presence of our naval forces in ocean areas which usually are beyond NATO's sphere of activity."

And then, as they say, "chance" lent a helping hand. The revolution in Iran and the adoption in that country of a number of antimonopolistic measures "harmed" the oil interests of the United States and the other NATO countries. A pretext presented itself in practice to show the North Atlantic bloc's muscles beyond the bounds of its borders and the pretext was promptly used. A naval armada, including American, British, West German, and French warships, was dispatched to the Persian Gulf region. British Premier M. Thatcher proposed the inclusion of a few British Army units in the U.S. Rapid Deployment Force. Other "collective" measures of a political, economic, and military nature were adopted "to introduce order" in that region. Thus the North Atlantic bloc began in practice to implement the idea of the defense of the West's "common interests" beyond NATO's geographic framework.

It underwent an even more thorough test during the Falklands (Malvinas) conflict. The bloc's military-political leadership did not see the British adventure in the South Atlantic as merely the limited action of an individual NATO country. From the very beginning they attached to it the significance of a show of the whole bloc's potential to exercise global "powers." This was pointed up by the then British secretary of state for defense, J. Nott, who described the position of the allies in support of the British military actions as the "concrete embodiment of the growing recognition in NATO of the fact that the West's interests are not limited to the treaty zone."

However, it is not just by the participation of military contingents in "distant expeditions" that the NATO leadership intends to exercise its "powers" to guarantee "common interests." For several years now they have been hatching plans to create subsidiaries of the bloc or new "defensive" alliances under its auspices in various regions of the world.

Returning to the aforementioned Ridex exercises, it must be stressed that as well as the escalation of the NATO military presence in the Caribbean region, the process of knocking together various military organizations is in full swing there.

In 1982, under the leadership of the United States and Britain, the unification of five Caribbean island states which were until recently British colonies into a "regional system of security and defense" took place. The inspirers of the creation of the new military alliance -- the Pentagon and NATO generals -- do not conceal that the police formations of those countries will be used to suppress anti-imperialist actions by the region's progressive forces. With the same aim in view, preparations are underway there to create a larger bloc on a broad militarist basis to include the reactionary dictatorial regimes of Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and a number of other Central American countries. With U.S. and NATO support, these imperialist puppets are already trying jointly to drown in a bloodbath the liberation movement of the peoples of the Caribbean countries.

Recently the adventurist plans to create new military alliances and use them for NATO purposes have assumed very real forms vis-a-vis Japan. Here they meet with full understanding and support among ruling circles. When the Y. Nakasone administration came to power Japan intensified its attempts to secure from NATO "associated member" status, which would enable it to participate to some degree in the bloc's activity. A council of parliamentarians on "questions of ensuring the security of Japan, the United States, and West European countries," has been created in the country. The council is striving to expand its links with the inter-parliamentary association of the NATO countries. Many talks and consultations are being held with the object of establishing direct military cooperation between Japanese militarism and the NATO military. At the same time, Japan has concluded a number of bilateral military agreements with the United States -- NATO's leading country -- which in case of need might become the basis of cooperation with the whole bloc.

A plan for creating a military bloc along NATO lines in the South Atlantic has been extracted from the garbage of the cold war era. In present conditions the plan is being filled with an increasingly aggressive content, since it is planned to unify into a single military machine under direct U.S. leadership racist South Africa, the Pinochet regime -- suppressor of the Chilean people's freedom -- and certain military dictatorships in Latin America. SATO -- this is the title given the as yet nonexistent bloc -- is to be NATO's "twin" and to "guarantee" the expansion of international imperialism's influence to Africa and South America.

The Near and Middle East region is constantly in the NATO circles' fields of vision. Rich in oil and occupying an advantageous strategic position, it has constantly attracted and continues to attract the attention of monopoly capital. Referring to the potential "threat" to their interests which exists there, the United States and NATO are making strenuous efforts to penetrate this region. With this aim in view a continuous search is underway for opportunities to unify reactionary Arab regimes into a military organization under U.S. "patronage." In the opinion of the progressive Western press, the introduction of U.S. troops into Lebanon and particularly the formation of the U.S. Central Command (Centcom), whose sphere of activity embraces the territory of 19 Arab and Asian countries, is to be seen as a precondition for the creation of such a bloc. In their penetration of the Near and Middle East the United States and NATO are making active use of aggressive Israel.

Two dangerous tendencies can be seen in NATO's "expansion of geography" and the participation of the bloc's European countries in the so-called "collective defense of the vital interests" of imperialism. One of these lies in the U.S. attempt to pursue a global policy through the hands, or more exactly through the military strength, of its bloc allies. This is evidenced by a statement by the famous American historian A. Schlesinger, who said: "For us the Western alliance is neither a luxury nor the result of sentimental kindness toward smaller brothers. For us it is a stern necessity if we wish to implement a global policy."

The adventurist plans for securing the selfish goals of monopoly capital in this or that corner of planet with the help of military force also lead to another even more serious danger -- the unleashing of a new world war. Pointing this up, the Warsaw Pact member states noted in the Political Declaration adopted in Prague: "The danger of local conflicts escalating into armed conflict on a world scale is largely linked with the attempts to involve directly or indirectly the states of Asia, Africa, Latin America, and Oceania in military-political alliances and to extend blocs' spheres of action to them."

This policy of the imperialist powers and their partners in military-political blocs requires the greatest vigilance from the peoples and readiness to oppose any intrigues by the United States and NATO.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA ON U.S. DESIGNS IN SOUTHWEST ASIA

PM241414 Moscow KRAZNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 21 May 83 First Edition p 5

[Doctor of Military Sciences Major General R. Simonyan article under the rubric "Bridgeheads of Aggression": "The Pentagon's Outposts in Southwest Asia"]

[Text] "Southwest Asia, from Israel to Oman," American military correspondent D. Middleton emphasizes, "now rivals Europe as a focus of military planning" by the United States. Here, of course, it is not a question of any sort of "rivalry," but of U.S. imperialism's desire to establish at all costs its supremacy over a region of most important economic (energy resources) and strategic (proximity to the USSR's southern borders) significance. The Pentagon is making particularly energetic use of the latter fact. American medium-range nuclear weapons (principally of the carrier-borne air force) have been deployed in the Persian Gulf and in the Arabian Sea together with similar weapons in other "theaters of war," particularly in Japan and South Korea, which are capable of covering the Asian part of the Soviet Union.

Washington is also placing the security of the countries of the region under no less threat. "We intend to stay in the Near East," U. S. Navy Secretary Lehman has stated, "and use military force to defend our interests if need be." On the false pretext of "defending interests" Washington has begun feverish activity there to build up its military presence. The countries of the region are being threatened from the West by the ships of the U.S. 6th Fleet concentrated in the eastern part of the Mediterranean and from the southeast by the naval fleet concentrated in the Persian Gulf and the Arabian Sea. Both groupings of ships possess aircraft carriers and considerable assault forces. The Near and Middle East, and the approaches to it, are enmeshed by a web of American military bases in Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Oman, Pakistan, Somalia, and Kenya and on the island of Diego Garcia....

Israel has been assigned a special place in the implementation of the aggressive U. S. plans. It serves as a military cudgel dealing out brigandly blows against the Arab countries and paving the way for U. S. military formations under the cover of the "multinational forces" flag. It is precisely for this reason that they were based initially in Sinai and then in Lebanon. According to THE NEW YORK TIMES information, "they can be used in the event of the outbreak of an extraordinary situation for carrying out operations outside the limits of Sinai." Washington thus intends to transform Lebanese territory too into a bridgehead for aggression. It is not for nothing that the Pentagon's strategists are planning to increase their contingent in this country from 1,200 to 4,000-5,000 Marines, according to one set of figures, and to 10,000, according to another.

It is by no means the first year that plans to establish the joint military and political supremacy of the United States and Israel over the Near East as a whole have been developed and carried out. The Israeli aggressors are now turning the weapons granted them by Washington against Syria and are preparing to strike against the country which is the main obstacle standing in the way of the implementation of their invasion plans. And it is no accident that while Tel Aviv is playing with fire and fueling anti-Syrian militarist intoxication, Washington is increasing the military and financial assistance it is offering to it.

At the same time, the Pentagon is also hurriedly creating and commissioning bases in Israel itself. Ships of the 6th Fleet call at the naval bases of Ashdod and Haifa. The possibility of American ships in the Indian Ocean using the base at Elat (in the Gulf of Aqaba) is being studied. Two Israeli Air Force bases are being built with American dollars in the Negev desert which the Pentagon plans to use for the reception of its interventionist Rapid Deployment Forces.

The Egyptian base of Ra's Banas on the shore of the Red Sea is also being adapted to the needs of the Rapid Deployment Forces. When the work being carried out there has been finished, it will be able to receive up to 16,000 American servicemen. The Pentagon also has access to a number of other Egyptian air and naval bases where, for example, aircraft equipped with the AWACS air borne warning and control system, which carry out spying in the region, are deployed.

A military infrastructure is also being created in Saudi Arabia, where the interest on Washington's part is determined by not unimportant factors such as the enormous oil stocks and the large territory in the center of the region. President Reagan once unambiguously threatened that Saudi Arabia "will not be allowed to go the way of Iran." And THE WASHINGTON POST has reported the "ambitious plan" being hatched by the Reagan administration "to build reserve bases in Saudi Arabia fully-equipped and awaiting use by American troops." It is true that the Saudi flag flies above the military bases which are already there and above those which are being built by the Americans in Jidda (on the Red Sea littoral), in Al-Jubayl (on the Persian Gulf littoral) and in other centers. However, several thousand officers and other U.S. military specialists are constantly to be found there. Therefore, the Paris newspaper LE MONDE calls these strong points links in a single chain which runs through the American bases on the island of Diego Garcia and in Kenya, Somalia, Egypt, and Oman....

Washington needs bases in Oman in order to establish control over the narrow Straits of Hormuz, which connect the Persian Gulf to the Arabian Sea. U.S. Air Force reconnaissance aircraft are now being based on the island of Masir, and after reconstruction this base will be able to take U.S. B-52 strategic bombers. Submarine moorings are being built in the island's bays. Washington is trying to obtain permission to build naval bases at the very mouth of the gulf in the regions of Matrah and Al-Khasab in order to place the very busy international shipping and the path for the invasion of the countries of the gulf by major U.S. naval assault forces under its control.

The Pentagon is also exhibiting feverish activity in the distant approaches to Southwest Asia. To service the invasion forces there, is the recently created "Central Command" (Centcom), to which the contingents of the Rapid Deployment Forces and Air Force and Navy divisions are being transferred; and various sorts of bases are being built in Somalia, Kenya, and Pakistan and on the island of Diego Garcia. The latter is being transformed into a very major multipurpose base capable of accepting and servicing not only units of the Rapid Deployment Forces (for which there are floating base-arsenals there), but strategic bombers and missile-carrying nuclear submarines.

Nuclear weapons are being stockpiled there whose use in Southwest Asia is envisaged in a special U.S. presidential directive, according to foreign press reports.

Washington is seeking to secure strong points in Pakistan in exchange for dollars and modern weapons. Air force and Navy bases in Karachi, Peshawar, and Gwadar, for example, are intended to back up Rapid Deployment Force operations. Construction has started on American electronic surveillance centers in Peshawar, Gwardar, and Sargodha which are targeted, as the foreign press points out, at the USSR, India, Afghanistan, and the countries of the Persian Gulf.

Washington has also obtained consent to use strong points on the other flank of the potential "theater of war," in East Africa. The naval and air force bases in Berbera and Kismayu (Somalia) and in Mombassa (Kenya) are also being transformed into Pentagon outposts there. Finally, the use of bases in racist South Africa and in Australia for these dangerous purposes is being planned.

Today, in addition to rehearsing rapid transfers of interventionist forces and assimilating the Near East "theater," the Pentagon is examining different ways of using them in "specific situations." The American magazine FORTUNE has related one such possible "situation." It concerns the "outbreak of unrest in Saudi Arabia". Consumed by imperialist pretensions, Washington assumes the right to interfere, and that includes with its armed forces, in the internal affairs of the countries of the region in the event of social changes taking place in these countries which it deems disagreeable.

In recent times, Washington's intention to also involve the Atlantic bloc in the militarist adventures it is planning in Southwest Asia have become increasingly obvious. In pursuit of this, attempts are being made to involve NATO's southern flank in operational relations with the American forces in the Near and Middle East and to place the NATO military infrastructure at the service of the Pentagon. As a first step in this direction, it is planned to include the American bases on the territory of NATO member Turkey in the sinister web of bases enmeshing the countries of the Near East and the Indian Ocean. THE WASHINGTON POST newspaper, reporting "secret plans" for building three additional U.S. air bases in eastern Turkey, significantly emphasized their proximity to the Soviet Union's borders and their even greater proximity to Iran, Iraq, and Syria. It is planned to deploy the interventionist U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces at these bases. And although they deny this possibility in Ankara, as the Turkish newspaper MILLIYET has pointed out, "we all know perfectly well, irrespective of whether Turkey is in agreement or not, that the Rapid Deployment Forces will eventually come here." And another Turkish newspaper, CUMHURIYET, has directly stated that the United States is intending to charge Turkey with the functions of a gendarme to safeguard American interests in the Persian Gulf region.

The U.S. global hegemonist course is meeting with growing opposition not only in the countries of this extensive region but throughout the whole world. This found vivid reflection, in particular, at the seventh conference of heads of state and government of nonaligned countries which took place recently in Delhi. The conference participants firmly demanded that the forces of imperialism, and first and foremost the United States, cease interfering in the internal affairs of other countries and renounce once and for all the policy of aggression and the stirring up of existing centers of tension and the creating of new ones in both Southwest Asia and other regions of the world.

U.S. SEEN AIMING FOR WORLD DOMINATION IN PACIFIC

Pacific Ocean 'Ambitions'

PM241528 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 83 First Edition p 4

[Article by A. Vlasov: "A Vicious Circle; Washington's Pacific Ocean Ambitions"]

[Text] On a map of the world showing U.S. military bases and areas where U.S. Armed Forces are stationed on foreign territories, three regions are most heavily mottled -- Western Europe, the Near and Middle East, East Asia and the Pacific Ocean.

The Pacific Ocean region is given nearly the same role to play in U.S. "global strategy" as Western Europe. The false "Soviet threat" thesis was introduced to validate this approach. Only the United States can repel this notorious "global threat," Washington officials insist. Allegedly, if the United States were to quit the region, a "vacuum" would inevitably occur. Is this not evidence of the staggering arrogance of the U.S. ruling circles, which are reluctant to consider the peoples of the developing countries and do not want to reckon with their history and traditions and their growing role in determining the destiny of the world? The primitive "vacuum" theory is based on an attempt to attribute to others the vices characteristic of imperialist policy and to impose on people the idea that the "vacuum" would be filled by...the socialist countries. Thus, Washington political circles are evidently trying to justify the present administration's abandonment of the concept of "America's strategic withdrawal from the Asian and Pacific Ocean region" which gained currency after the United States was defeated in its aggression in Vietnam. They are obviously keen to do all they can to make people forget the political and moral ignominy of the U.S. imperialist circles and blame others, eschewing no falsifications.

What specifically is official Washington offering the countries of the Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asia, what kind of future is it promising them? The number of U.S. officers and men in the region has increased by 12,000 over the past year, rising to around 150,000. Plans are being implemented to involve the countries of the region in the arms race, and, at the same time, elements of discord and tension are being introduced.

The militarization of Japan, on which Washington is vigorously insisting, serves precisely this aim. According to reports in ASEAN countries' press organs, it is causing grave anxiety there. The peoples of Southeast Asia and the Pacific Ocean have not forgotten what Japanese aggression during World War II meant for them. The Indonesian press, for example, feared that official Tokyo's plans to extend its Navy's range of action to 1,000 miles might be expanded, bringing sea routes through the Strait of Malacca and the Sunda Strait under Japanese control. Malaysian officials have also stated that they are seriously concerned about the buildup of Japanese military might.

There is a destabilizing factor present. However, the United States is continuing to step up the pressure on Japan. The United States has deployed the nuclear submarines "Ohio" and "Michigan," equipped with Trident nuclear missiles, in the Pacific Ocean region. They are expecting the modernized missile-carrying battleship "New Jersey" with Tomahawk cruise missiles on board to be based in a Japanese port. The Natoization of Japan is being stepped up.

There are reports that Tokyo will very soon be starting high-level consultations with the NATO countries on "global problems of safeguarding security." Formerly such consultations were of a covert nature; now they are being talked of openly.

During the conflict in the South Atlantic the United States supported Britain's colonial claims on the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands. Thus, the actions of the two NATO countries were extended far beyond the bounds of the bloc. Is there any reason, Washington wonders, why the United States should not now support the Japanese military's hegemonist aspirations with one small modification, adding South Korea to Japan?

The obvious aim of Natoization is to form into a single chain the military presence of the United States and its allies in the Pacific and Indian Oceans and forge an even closer link between the network of U.S. military bases and the American-Japanese Korean alliance which is in the making and also with the ANZUS Pact. The creation of the U.S. "Central Command" for Southwest Asia formally did not include the countries of the Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asia in its sphere. But the fact is, the "Central Command" rests on the actions of the U.S. 7th Fleet in the Pacific which has bases in Diego Garcia in the Indian Ocean as well as in Japan, South Korea, and the Philippines. Thus, Washington is putting hegemonist and militarist flesh on the idea of a "Pacific Ocean community."

What about the ASEAN countries' anxiety?

During his recent tour of ASEAN countries, Japanese Prime Minister Nakasone spent a lot of time trying to convince his interlocutors that the Japanese policy of remilitarization is "defensive." However, he failed to dispel the alarm. "Under no circumstances must Tokyo assume a military role," Philippine Foreign Minister C. Romulo said. U.S. officials maintain that "Japan has no aggressive intentions," and, at the same time, they recommend that the countries, "defend themselves," with U.S. help, of course. Very strange logic from the viewpoint of common sense, but not from the viewpoint of the U.S. ruling circles. The latter want to involve as many countries as possible in military preparations.

The militarization of the Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asian region in conditions of deepening contradictions among the imperialist powers and also between imperialism and the developing countries contains a further element -- the protection of the interests of U.S. capital. A summary of recent speeches by the President, the secretary of state, the defense secretary, and other senior U.S. leaders would produce the following picture: The United States intends to preserve and expand the potential for exporting its products and gaining sure access to sources of very important types of raw material, in particular the resources of the seabed and ocean floor, and to the establishment of control over sea routes.

Moreover, the zone of U.S. "national interests" is forever expanding. In violation of the UN Charter the United States is endeavoring to perpetuate its total control over the trust territory of Micronesia. The ASEAN countries' oil and commercial routes pass close by Micronesia's Mariana, Caroline, and Marshall Islands, and plentiful stocks of ferromanganese concretions have been discovered in deep water between the Hawaiian Islands and Micronesia. This acts as a magnet for the U.S. transnational corporations, which are preventing the U.S. Government from signing the international Law of the Sea Convention. They want to arrogate to themselves the right to unhampered exploitation of deposits of strategic raw material on the seabed, including that in Micronesia. This is the implementation of President Reagan's statement at the launching of the modernized missile-carrying battleship "New Jersey" to the effect that the United States must have access to all the oceans of the world and control of the airspace above them, their surface, and the ocean depths.

The U.S. ruling circles' hegemonist claims, the Reagan administration's dramatic buildup of military preparations, and the encouragement of other countries to militarize are giving rise to growing fears among the public in Japan, Australia, the countries of Southeast Asia and the islands of the Pacific.

Representatives of a variety of political parties and currents and a variety of ideological and religious views are joining the struggle against the threat of war. The peace supporters are backing such important initiatives as the creation of peace zones in Southeast Asia and the Indian Ocean. The Pentagon's steps to consolidate U.S. military control over Micronesia and deploy the new generation of U.S. nuclear missiles in East Asia are seen in the countries of the region as a grave threat to the security of the Pacific.

At the seventh conference of heads of state and government of nonaligned countries in Delhi convincing figures were cited on the way imperialist circles are getting rich at the expense of the developing countries. For every dollar invested there the U.S. transnational corporations alone get \$4.25 in profits. Other methods are used as well as the policy of protectionism. For example, industries which have a damaging effect on the environment are put in "Third World" countries, and narrow production specialization is practiced, which makes the countries which are recipients of U.S. aid severely dependent technologically on monopoly centers. By imposing the arms race on certain developing countries and supplying them with ever larger quantities of its weapons, the United States is getting from them the revenue from the sale of oil and other raw materials and is placing them permanently in its debt. Many of these methods are being used in the Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asia. Washington official circles and their large staff of experts on the "Third World" are trying to convince the developing countries that they have no alternative but to conclude "bilateral or multilateral security and development treaties with the United States." In other words, to remain prisoners of neocolonialist dependence. This course has already led to U.S. aggression in Korea and Vietnam which ended in defeat for U.S. imperialism. To all appearances, the lessons of history have been forgotten.

The realistic approach to international problems, including those which concern the developing countries, is enshrined in the Warsaw Pact states' Political Declaration. It includes the acknowledgement by all states of the legitimate right of the peoples of all countries to independent development and to solve their own internal problems without foreign interference so that everyone respects the independence, territorial integrity, and inviolability of the borders of states. It includes renunciation of the use of force or "threat of force," the policy of hegemonism, and the establishment of a "sphere of interests" or "spheres of influence."

The normalization of the situation in Asia would be helped by the implementation of the proposals by Vietnam, Laos, Kampuchea, and also Mongolia aimed at the liquidation of seats of tension and the strengthening of peace. With regard to the Pacific Ocean and Southeast Asia, the implementation of these proposals would rid the region of the military threat, of the arms race, and of the foreign military presence. It is the countries of the region, needing security and a peaceful atmosphere for economic and social development in their peoples' interests, who will benefit most of all from such a policy.

Pacific Base Policy

PM251109 Moscow KRSNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 May 83 First Edition p 3

[Article "from foreign press reports" By Doctor of Military Sciences Major General R. Simonyan under the rubric "Bridgeheads of Aggression": "A Web of Bases in the Pacific"]

[Text] As long ago as the turn of the century the then U.S. secretary of state J. Hay said: "The Mediterranean is the ocean of the past, the Atlantic is the ocean of the present, and the Pacific is the ocean of the future."

American imperialism's aggressive wars in Korea and later in Vietnam and other Indo-chinese countries, showed clearly how the "future" is becoming the "present." The ignominious failure of these militarist ventures did not, however, do their organizers and inspirers any good. In the book of the present champions of Washington's global hegemonist course, who, incidentally, do not belittle the significance of either the Mediterranean or any other region of the planet, the Pacific, together with Northeast and Southeast Asia, ranks second among the three "central strategic zones," between Europe and Southwest Asia.

This second "central strategic zone," as the American journal U.S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT stressed, "in our nuclear missile age...could become a battlefield in moments." Admiral R. Long, commander of U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific and Indian Ocean region, went even further, stating frankly that "I believe it is in this region that we are most likely to witness a confrontation with the Soviet Union."

In accordance with these principles the second most significant grouping of U.S. Armed Forces is deployed in the Pacific. Under Adm Long's command there are approximately 100 surface warships, including aircraft carriers, half a hundred nuclear submarines, and nearly 1,000 jet warplanes. A significant proportion of these forces is concentrated in Japan and South Korea -- that is, in close proximity to the Soviet Union.

Japan's territory, where some 50,000 American servicemen are stationed at nearly 120 bases and other military sites, is being transformed into an "unsinkable nuclear aircraft carrier," as Tokyo official circles openly say. The Land of the Rising Sun is allotted a special place in the Pentagon's plans -- that of one of the most important forward bridgeheads of aggression. Japan, with the island of Okinawa, and the surrounding waters are crammed with American nuclear weapons.

The American naval bases of Yokosuka and Sasebo, the air bases of Misawa, Yokota, and Kadena, and the Marines' air base at Iwakuni are the biggest in Japan. They are actively used by the U.S. 7th Fleet, a significant proportion of whose ships, including all the aircraft carriers, are, according to foreign press reports, equipped with nuclear weapons. The number of calls by American nuclear submarines at Japanese ports is increasing every year. The nuclear aircraft carrier "Enterprise" visited the Sasebo base again recently. A visit by the sophisticated nuclear aircraft carrier "Carl Vinson" to Yokosuka is planned for June-July. The modernized battleship "New Jersey," which is armed with cruise missiles, including missiles with nuclear warheads, will soon receive a berth in Japan.

An agreement has been reached between Washington and Tokyo on deploying American F-16 fighter-bombers capable of carrying nuclear weapons at the Misawa base from 1984. Both capitals make no secret of the fact that the main task of these planes will be "offensive operations against Soviet bases in Maritime Kray and on Sakhalin Island." The Pentagon's intention of deploying ground-based cruise missiles in Japan and in South Korea has also been reported. Thus these countries, like the countries of West Europe, are under threat of being turned into Washington's nuclear hostages.

The special role assigned to Japan in the Pentagon's aggressive designs is also explained by a series of other factors. It is a country with tremendous industrial, scientific, and technical potential, considerable human resources, and great military potential. In promoting the revival of aggressive militarism there, the United States seeks to transfer to Japan a part of its own functions as international gendarme, so as to be able to release American naval and air forces, as well as the 3d division of Marines, which is deployed in Okinawa and forms part of the interventionist Rapid Deployment Forces, for rapid shipment to the Indian Ocean and for aggressive actions in the Persian Gulf zone.

Vice Admiral Holcomb, commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet, has admitted that in the event of American troops being shipped to the Gulf zone, his fleet's carrier-borne aircraft will be entrusted with the task of ensuring superiority in the air. As for Japan, the Pentagon intends to entrust its "self-defense forces" with patrolling a 1,000-mile zone around the Japanese islands and also -- in violation of international law -- blockading international sea routes through the Far Eastern straits.

Increasingly persistent attempts have recently been made to involve Tokyo in the Washington-Seoul militarist alliance. Representatives of the command of the Japanese "self-defense forces" were officially present as observers for the first time at the American-South Korean "Team Spirit-83" maneuvers this year, which were on an unprecedented scale and were provocative in nature. Bases in Japan were turned into springboards for landing operations by American troops in southern Korea.

The knocking together of the Washington-Tokyo-Seoul militarist "triangle" is planned with an eye to the fact that South Korea is one of the most important American bridgeheads with a complex of bases and nuclear weapons dumps -- actually on the Asian mainland. Plans for the deployment of neutron weapons in South Korea have become known. The 42,000-strong U.S. occupation corps has become firmly entrenched at bases and military sites, particularly in Osan, Kunsan, Taegu, Kwangju, Seoul, and Pusan, and at camps along the "demilitarized zone." As in Japan, there are units in South Korea which form part of the interventionist U.S. Rapid Deployment Forces.

The Pentagon's concern for strengthening its strong points in the Philippines is of no small significance in connection with plans for preparing those forces for shipment to the Indian Ocean region and for invading the Persian Gulf countries. An 11,000-strong American garrison is maintained at the Clark Field Air Base. There is also a considerable garrison at the Subic Bay naval base. "My soldiers, having been trained here in the Philippines," one American officer boasted, "are ready to fight in any climatic conditions, on any territory -- be it sand, mountains or valleys."

It is officially stated in Manila that the deployment of nuclear weapons at American bases will not be permitted without the Philippine Government's consent. But prominent opposition figures stress that the Pentagon could bring such weapons into its bases without even notifying the Philippine side.

"Without bases in Southeast Asia," former U.S. assistant Secretary of State Holbrooke said, "our capacities for defending our interests in the Indian Ocean would be restricted." That is why, along with the desire to retain its strategic positions in the Philippines, Washington is now striving to establish itself again at its former military bases in Thailand.

Moreover, the Pentagon is actively assimilating Australian and Micronesian territory. According to the Australian press the port of Cockburn Sound and other sites are called upon to provide backup via military satellites in space for missile launches from U.S. territory and from American submarines. THE NEW YORK TIMES, reporting on the building of new bases on the Mariana Islands in addition to the major base complex on Guam, writes: "From here bombers will be able to make strikes against the Asian mainland... while missile-carrying surface ships and submarines will have an even bigger forward base than at present. Moreover, ground forces could be deployed on the Mariana Islands with a view to ensuring a more flexible reaction to everything happening in the region."

So we are faced with a further militarization of the Pacific and its transformation into yet another vast bridgehead for aggression -- first and foremost against the Soviet Union.

At the same time measures are being adopted to establish close links between this "theater of war," as the Pentagon calls it, and the neighboring, Indian Ocean theater. The gendarme forces in the Indian Ocean and Southwest Asia are mainly formed from among the U.S. Armed Forces in the Pacific. The aggressive actions of the former and the latter are planned in the light of the organization of close collaboration between them.

However, this does not exhaust the sinister designs of the creators of the American policy of expansion. They seek to make the Pentagon's bloc and base strategy truly all-embracing and global. To this end attempts are made to establish by degrees military-political ties between existing imperialist, anticommunist alliances (NATO, ANZUS and so forth) and those which Washington is planning (the "Pacific Community," for instance), and to extend their zones of operation -- for instance, NATO's to the Near East, and so forth.

It is again Japan to which a special role is assigned in this militarist venture. Washington intends to unite the American-Japanese military alliance not only with the American-South Korean one, but also with the biggest imperialist bloc, NATO, which it is urging Japan to join -- in the first instance as an "Associated member." Nor has the United States renounced old plans for turning such ASEAN countries as Indonesia, Singapore, and Malaysia into accomplices in American military adventures. This would enable the Pentagon, according to its strategists' design, to take control of an important international sea route (the Strait of Malacca) linking the Pacific and Indian Oceans.

The implementation of all these dangerous plans would mean turning the many hundreds of overseas military bases which encircle the USSR, its allies, and the developing countries into a single, global strategic complex. The Pentagon would obtain additional potential for maneuvering its forces and those of its junior partners, shipping them flexibly from one seat of tension -- which it creates itself -- to another. As you can see, Washington's base and bloc strategy is acquiring increasing significance in the implementation of the expansionist course aimed at establishing American domination of the world.

PART TWO OF ARBATOV INTERVIEW ON DETENTE

PM251412 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 25 May 83 p 4

[Second part of interview with Georgiy Arbatov by Willem Oltmans under the rubric "Our Publications": "Dialogues on Detente: Illusions of the 'Tough' Line"]

[Text] Question: In your view, has the American ruling elite become disenchanted with detente in recent years and therefore decided to return to "cold war"?

Answer: That would be an extremely simplified view of the problem. I do not think U.S. ruling circles were ever really "enchanted" with detente. In our view, improving relations and expanding cooperation with the USSR, not to mention disarmament and the renunciation of the use of force, are by no means typical or traditional for that elite's political thought or practical policy. At the same time, we see various groupings within the elite which differ in their approaches to problems. And -- most important -- reality itself and the objective course of events, are not infrequently capable of making even those people with fixed views, change their approach. But that does not mean such changes occur easily or are irreversible. The force of the past, of habit, what is really second nature to influential circles among the American ruling class, come to the fore again at the least opportunity.

As for the very powerful groups which traditionally uphold the most reactionary, militarist, irresponsible policy, they opposed the turn toward detente from the first and tried desperately to prevent it. When they were unable to do that, they spared no effort to reverse the course of events.

Question: What do you think proved most difficult for the United States in the sense of adapting to new realities?

Answer: I think what was most difficult for the United States was adapting to the fact that they had lost military superiority over the USSR and that approximate equality had arisen between our two countries in that sphere. It was also very hard for the United States to accustom itself to the narrowing of the sphere of utilization of military force and to the fact that even such a mighty power -- in military terms -- as the United States can no longer allow itself to act however it sees fit in the world. Speaking of adaptation difficulties. I would also like to mention some illusions which also played a certain role in the turn toward a new "cold war" -- for instance, that the United States is capable of regaining its previous predominance and special position in the world.

Question: Immediately after Reagan took the post of President, he started persuading Americans that they have the right to "dream the boldest dreams...."

Answer: There were other illusions too. I think American policy was also influenced by illusory hopes for a rapid change in the global correlation of forces in favor of the United States as a result of American-Chinese rapprochement. Another illusion -- that the problems facing the Soviet Union (first and foremost economic problems) will supposedly open up opportunities for the United States to bring strong pressure to bear on Soviet policy. There were also important domestic political factors. During the seventies for instance, complaints of America's "ungovernability" were stepped up in U.S. ruling circles. It was said that internal differences had intensified in the country, conflicts between political institutes had become more acute, society had started making "excessive" social demands on the state, and there was a kind of "surplus of democracy." People recalled more and more often that during the "cold war," American society was more organized and disciplined and that it was easier to "rule" the state then. I formed the impression that many of those who are worried by this "ungovernability" expect the stepping up of international tension to make Americans more obedient.

All these factors taken together, it seems, helped to form among a considerable proportion of the U.S. ruling elite the firm opinion that strengthening of American influence in the world and a lessening of political stability within the United States can be achieved if you take a "harder" line, if you increase American military potential and are ready to use it more intensively than before in foreign policy. These same circles also believe that it is possible to use U.S. economic might more directly and crudely.

It is now fashionable among the Washington "hawks" to assert that detente "weakened" America's will and determination in international affairs. However, if Washington has shown a lack of will and determination in anything, it is in its approach to detente, arms control, and confidence-building measures.

Question: You get the impression that we are moving toward a second "cold war," all the same.

Answer: In assessing the situation it is important, it seems to me, to see that the second edition of the "cold war" is fraught with immeasurably greater dangers than the first.

The return to unlimited hostility and confrontation would take place at a new level of development of the means of destruction, armed conflict would become more likely and its consequences more catastrophic. Moreover, an upsurge of "cold war" in the eighties would draw in far more countries than before. And the more participants there are in international conflict, the greater the risk, especially if certain participants have a tendency to play dangerous, irresponsible "games" in the world arena. Moreover, in the event of a return to "cold war" the proliferation of nuclear weapons would become virtually inevitable.

Question: Patrick Caddell, who held the post of adviser to President Carter, once stated: "A small war brings a president popularity, but the lack of war does not in itself mean a political gain for him. Any president can rally the nation around him with the help of resolute military actions. Eisenhower had Korean and Lebanon, Kennedy had Cuba and Vietnam, Nixon had Vietnam."

Answer: There is an illustration of the "moral" presidency: War can easily be regarded as an acceptable means of preventing the routine change of guard in Washington. Doesn't Caddell's statement indicate serious defects in the political system which turns war into a means of achieving political success?

Question: Caddell may have put it too cynically, but such conduct has indeed been observed more than once in the past.

Answer: Yes, there is an ancient tradition in American political life. In difficult times it is considered more advantageous and secure to move to the right and display "toughness." For some reason, that stance is still considered patriotic, although in the nuclear age it could entail the greatest disasters, for the country. For some reason that stance is also considered more realistic, although today the greatest error is to hope to ensure security for yourself through the arms race and the use of force. The cowboy shooting from the hip is still popular figure in America.

Question: Strictly speaking, USSR and U.S. interests do not clash anywhere in the traditional sense -- for instance, in the form of territorial disputes.

Answer: That is true. The present difficulties in Soviet-American relations are of quite another nature. But the realities of the nuclear age insist that they be overcome.

Question: But much is now being said about U.S.-USSR rivalry. In the American Government's opinion this rivalry is the main cause of the exacerbation of international tension, and will continue in any conditions.

Answer: To say that USSR-U.S. relations have always contained an element of rivalry is a banality. The question is, what exactly is meant by rivalry. Those who make policy in Washington today, came to power under the slogan: "The cold war never ended!" and they really believe that is so. In fact detente is a policy which is by its nature and aims directly opposed to the "cold war" and is aimed not at achieving victory in conflicts (even without nuclear war), but at resolving and averting conflicts, lowering the level of military confrontation, and developing international cooperation.

FURTHER HIGHLIGHTS ON SCIENTISTS' MOSCOW PARLEY

PRAVDA on Press Conference

PM250944 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Belief in a Bright Future"]

[Text] The All-Union Conference of Scientists for Saving Mankind From the Threat of Nuclear War, for Disarmament and Peace, which ended in Moscow 19 May, demonstrated scientists' firm belief in the real possibility of preventing nuclear catastrophe.

Journalists accredited to the conference and representing over 50 of the world's largest news agencies, radio companies, newspapers, and journals showed great interest in the scientists' opinion on the fate of peace. On the final day of the forum's work the journalists attended a meeting with participants in the conference.

Academician A.P. Aleksandrov, president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, who assessed the results of the meeting, stressed that it was a new stage in the activation of the Soviet scientists' movement in defense of peace. The conference participants greeted with warm approval the establishment of a Committee of Soviet Scientists in Defense of Peace and Against Nuclear War.

Replying to correspondents' questions on the conference's scientific and practical significance, the president stressed with satisfaction that, judging by the speeches by scientists from various countries, the peace-loving forces are increasingly actively opposing the militarist circles' attempts to operate from a position of diktat in the international arena rather than from a position of equal partnership.

Academician P.N. Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, stressed another important aspect of the Moscow meeting in his speech. We have heard the opinions of scientists of different social and religious trends, he said. It is true that there is now no single international scientific antiwar organization, but, as the conference has shown, the various movements of scientists who oppose the threat of nuclear war are ready for close cooperation.

In reply to the question "How do you assess the significance of, and prospects for the further development of, international cooperation among scientists in the struggle for peace?" Academician Ye.P. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences, said that recent international meetings of scientists provide convincing evidence of the growing desire of national peace fighters' movements for consolidation. This is attested, in particular, by the recent meeting of representatives of almost all the world's academies of sciences in Rome, the events of the international Pugwash Movement, and other meetings.

In reply to a question on the potential of the world's scientists for influencing politicians in the current tense international situation, Academician Ye.P. Velikhov said that several ways existed in that respect. One lies in the fact that political leaders often ask representatives of science to give specialized answers to difficult questions. And the task is to ensure that their expert advice is objective and honest. Another way is through the businesslike meetings about which Comrade Yu.V. Andropov spoke recently when he proposed that the two countries' scientists should examine the consequences of the creation of an ABM system in space which is being planned by the United States. But the main thing is that scientists should always speak the truth. That is the most important social aspect of their influence on the fate of peace.

Incidentally, that will be one task of the recently created committee of Soviet scientists. We have pooled our efforts so as to coordinate our actions in various spheres. It is important that an increasing number of scientists working in narrow fields of study should ask themselves the common main question of the present day -- how to save the world from thermonuclear catastrophe. In the search for an answer to this we offer our cooperation to all antiwar organizations, if they are interested in it, of course.

Journalists asked about Academician A.P. Aleksandrov's opinion on the U.S. Administration's intention to deploy ABM systems in space.

You already know, the scientist said, that when the Soviet-U.S. strategic arms limitation talks were being held it was decided unambiguously to limit the number of ABM systems. Thus the intention to expand the sphere of their use is quite dangerous, in my view.

[Question] "How do you explain the fact that some scientists continue working for nuclear war when they are perfectly aware of its danger?"

[Answer] "In my view there are several reasons. The main thing is that scientists must now learn how to think in a new way. After all, our ideas about war and weaponry have changed radically. Attitudes to the fruit of our research must also be re-examined."

In reply to a question on how the idea expressed by a scientist at the conference that the deployment of new U.S. missiles in Western Europe would sharply increase the likelihood of nuclear conflict should be understood, A.P. Aleksandrov said that such a move could undoubtedly seriously complicate the international situation and considerably increase the risk even of accidental nuclear conflict. It is common knowledge that these are first-strike weapons and those who are trying to deploy such missiles in Europe must be aware that their pre-emptive use will not enable the attacker to escape a retaliatory strike. Thus no strike against the Soviet Union and the socialist countries will go unpunished. All adversaries will suffer the appropriate retribution.

[Question] "A speech at the conference recalled the unseemly incident when the U.S. Administration refused to grant visas to Soviet scientists invited to a professional meeting with U.S. colleagues. Does that not mean that ties between USSR and U.S. experts are frozen?"

[Answer] "The present state of bilateral cooperation gives us no satisfaction," Academician Ye. P. Velikhov replied, "but it continues. We are working together in a number of areas in whose research results all mankind is interested and which cannot be stopped by administrative methods. Incidentally, we can also see the U.S. scientists' scientists' sincere regret over these, I hope, temporary obstacles and their fervent desire to continue to cooperate with us."

Participants, Speeches

PM241318 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 19 May 83 Second Edition p 4

[Undated TASS report: "Averting Nuclear Catastrophe"]

[Excerpts] Defending peace - there is no more important task for mankind at this time. Scientists have an important role in the struggle for mankind's future. Conveying to the people the truth about the consequences of nuclear war, the threat of which hangs over the world, and pooling efforts in the antiwar movement -- these are the objectives of the all-union conference of scientists which is continuing its work in Moscow. In addition to representatives of Soviet science, foreign scientists and leaders of the Pugwash Movement are discussing burning questions of war and peace.

A few days ago Vietnamese central newspapers published the Soviet scientists' appeal to all the scientists of the world, Professor Nguyen Van Hieu, chairman of the SRV National Scientific Research Center, said. It has become our banner in the struggle against the threat of a thermonuclear catastrophe. Thirty years of destructive war inflicted wounds on our country which have not yet healed, the scientist noted. Many parts of the country, woods, rivers, and rice paddies are contaminated as a result of the chemical warfare waged by the U.S. imperialists.

Professor D. Hodgekin (Great Britain), president of the Pugwash Movement and Nobel Prize winner is on the rostrum. We are living through a very difficult time, she stressed. However, it is a time not only of alarm but also of hope because millions of ordinary people throughout the world are making great efforts to avert nuclear war. Last week I attended a conference "Science for Peace" in the Italian city of San Remo. Scientists whose names are widely known spoke at this conference. They all agreed: Nothing can justify the use of nuclear weapons.

Immediately after the war, as is known, D. Hodgekin went on to say, a broad movement in defence of peace started in the Soviet Union. With the passage of years it has gained in scope and represents a mighty force now. In the West, too, the antiwar movement has gained wide scope. The task now is to ensure that all forces advocating peace act in unison regardless of differences in political views.

J. Rotblat, member of the Pugwash Movement Executive Committee and honorary member of London University, reported that a WHO conference in Geneva had just discussed the international committee of experts' document on the role of physicians and other health care personnel. Many participants in this meeting spoke out unequivocally about the extraordinary danger threatening mankind's health. Despite this, there are still many publications whose authors are trying to hide the whole truth about the consequences of a nuclear war from the public.

Professor D. Hamburg, member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, stressed that the Moscow conference is discussing problems of extraordinary importance. In a world where there is hatred, terrorism, and a danger of a new global war, scientists must make every effort to convince everybody on the basis of objective scientific analysis that there is only one way out -- to outlaw thermonuclear war. And we must find a sensible solution to this problem, the scientist said.

Academician K. Lohs (GDR) said: Allow me to state that the deployment of mass destruction weapons even now, in a period preceding a possible war, is horrific and dangerous. The United States is siting very big stocks of nuclear and chemical weapons and new medium-range missiles with nuclear warheads on FRG territory. In this way the threshold for an outbreak of nuclear war is being sharply lowered on our border and the danger of unforeseen accidents and errors which also could lead to war is being increased.

We scientists are in a privileged position as regards assessing the consequences and anticipating the danger hanging over our planet, Z. Marinello Vidaurreta, director of the Cuban Ministry of Health Oncology and Radiobiology Institute, said in his speech. During the U.S. aggression in Vietnam, the Cuban scientist recalled, the well-known U.S. pediatrician Benjamin Spock went to prison rather than stop speaking out in defence of the Vietnamese people, the victims of genocide. And we must struggle ceaselessly to avert the tragedy of a nuclear war.

The conference was also addressed by Academicians N.P. Bekhtereva, R.A. Sagdeyev, and N.A. Shilo; Professor D. (Frey) (Switzerland); Academician P.N. Burgasov of the USSR Academy of Medical Sciences; (Ch. Tseren), President of the Mongolian Academy of Sciences; Doctor F. R. al-Ansari (Syria); L. Rakic, dean of the Belgrade University Department of Medicine; Senator N. Pasti (Italy); I.I. Lukinov, vice-president of the Romanian Academy of Sciences; and (L. Bota) (Switzerland), director of the UN Institute for Disarmament Problems.

[Moscow PRAVDA in Russian on 18 May in its second edition on page 3 publishes a listing of conference participants who delivered reports and announcements which includes the following additional information:

["Italian scientists share the anxiety of their Soviet colleagues at the acceleration of the arms race, said G. Montalenti, president of the Lincei National Academy of Sciences. A year ago, he said, our academy issued a declaration analyzing the dangers threatening mankind in the event of a thermonuclear war. It was stressed in the declaration that the use of even the smallest fraction of the nuclear weapons existing today would result in irreparable damage to many countries. The facts which we have at our disposal show that the task of struggling for disarmament and for prevention of the threat of war must take priority over all others.

["Reports and announcements were also delivered at the conference by A. Balevski, president of the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences; W. Scheler, president of the GDR Academy of Sciences; B. Kvasil, president of the CSSR Academy of Sciences; Academician P.N. Fedoseyev, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; A.G. Babayev, president of the Turkmen SSR Academy of Sciences; Academicians A.A. Bayev and V.A. Legasov; corresponding members of the USSR Academy of Sciences L.P. Feoktistov and G.S. Golitsyn; and Professor W. Linden (FRG).

["The conference continues."]

Marshal Akhromeyev Speech

PM241120 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 May 83 Morning Edition pp 1, 2

[Report by IZVESTIYA special correspondents V. Kondrashov and V. Mikheyev on proceedings of Moscow "All-Union Conference of Scientists for Saving Mankind From the Threat of Nuclear War, for Disarmament, and for Peace: 8 "Responsibility for the Future"]

[Excerpt] The conference was addressed by Marshal of the Soviet Union S.F. Akhromeyev. He used eloquent facts and documents to show that during the postwar years U.S. military doctrine has been determined by an anti-Soviet orientation. The goal of this doctrine is to attain U.S. military superiority over the USSR and a desire to dictate the U.S. will to the Soviet Union and the socialist world as a whole. The marshal pointed out that Soviet military doctrine is the fundamental opposite of U.S. military doctrine. Its political content stems from the socialist social system, the policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state, and the fundamental interests of the Soviet people to live and work for the benefit of their motherland and mankind under conditions of peace. The marshal stressed that aggressive wars are alien to the Soviet Union and that it does not intend to attack any state, including the United States. Soviet military doctrine is aimed at ensuring that matters do not reach the point of a first or a second strike and that there is no nuclear war at all. The USSR's approach to these questions has been formulated by Soviet leaders as follows: The Soviet Union's defense potential must be sufficient to ensure that no one will risk encroaching upon our peaceful life.

Marshal S.F. Akhromeyev also recalled that the USSR has unilaterally adopted a pledge not to be the first to use nuclear weapons and has called on other states to follow this example. Nevertheless, we have not received a reply to this proposal, just as we have received no reply to the initiative concerning the signing of a treaty on the mutual nonuse of military force and the maintenance of relations of peace between NATO and the Warsaw Pact states. As a military specialist, the Soviet military leader declared in conclusion, I can say that a so-called limited nuclear war is impossible. Should it come about, it will be a universal war, with all the ensuing consequences.

WEEKLY CALLS FOR ACCEPTANCE OF CSCE DRAFT

PM251211 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No. 20, May 83 pp 8, 9

[A. Alekseyev article under the rubric "Madrid Meeting": "The Chance Must Not Be Missed"]

[Text] The Soviet Union's appeal to the participants in the Madrid meeting, which the Soviet delegation read out at the May 6 plenary session is the latest major move in the interests of security and co-operation in Europe. The appeal is pervaded by concern about the direction the further development of the situation in Europe will take -- towards the preservation and deepening of detente or towards the continuation and aggravation of the confrontation. Which it will be, depends to no small extent on the outcome of the Madrid meeting. The Soviet Union urges its conclusion at the earliest date with substantive positive results through the adoption of the draft of the final document submitted by a group of neutral and non-aligned countries on March 15.

The Madrid meeting has been going on for two and a half years now. In this time the positions of all the participating states have been defined with sufficient clarity. Possibilities for continuing fruitful talks have been virtually exhausted. Deliberate dragging out of sterile discussions, the continuation of a pointless "amendment game," can only discredit the very idea of such meetings and impede and undermine the all-European process in general. Judging by the performance of the American delegation ever since the meeting began, this would fully suit the present U.S. Administration. For in this, as in many other respects, it is displaying imperial arrogance and disregard of the real needs and interests of the European countries. Most of these countries, however, are of a different opinion. The all-European process that was started in Helsinki is an expression of the vital importance they attach to stable peace and the safeguarding of normal conditions for mutually beneficial intercourse between states. The significance and value of this process stand out in particularly bold relief against the background of the serious deterioration of the international situation caused by the adventuristic militarist course steered by the United States.

The most consistent and active advocates of the strengthening of security and promotion of co-operation in Europe are the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries. This is central to their European policy. The all-European conference itself became possible primarily thanks to the initiative and purposeful efforts of the socialist countries. When the U.S. and other NATO countries harp on imaginary violations of the principles and provisions of the Helsinki Final Act by the socialist countries -- and this is one of the favourite smears resorted to by Western propaganda -- the idea is, apart from everything else, to raise a smoke screen of fabrications and insinuations to conceal the difference between the attitudes taken to the process begun in Helsinki: the positive approach of the socialist countries and the essentially obstructionist approach of those who set the tune in NATO, primarily in the U.S.

Take, if only the joint policy declarations of the Warsaw Treaty states over the past 2 or 3 years, the documents issued by conferences of the Political Consultative Committee and sessions of the Committee of Foreign Ministers. These not merely confirm the invariable dedication of the socialist countries to the strengthening of security and promotion of co-operation in Europe, their adherence to the spirit and letter of the Final Act. Each time, this principled stand has been backed up by concrete initiatives and actions aimed at ensuring real progress. The socialist countries' approach to the Madrid meeting too is constructive and practical, in sharp contrast to the efforts of the U.S. to use this all-European forum for heightening confrontation, endless polemics, attempts at interference in the internal affairs of the socialist countries, and undisguised pressure on the West European countries, including its own allies. In a word, the U.S. has all along been out to sabotage the meeting.

As regards the Soviet Union, from the very outset -- this was underscored in Yuriy Andropov's recent reply to a message from the heads of state and government of Austria, Cyprus, San Marino, Finland, Sweden and Yugoslavia -- it has exerted persevering efforts towards the achievement of substantive positive agreements that would significantly strengthen security and promote cooperation in Europe in line with the principles laid down in the Helsinki Final Act.

Thanks to the efforts of the Soviet Union and its allies the holding of a conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe was placed in the focus of the attention of the Madrid meeting, which imparted to it a particularly timely significance. As was stated in the report of the Central Committee of the 26th CPSU Congress, the Soviet Union declared its readiness to extend confidence-building measures to the whole of the European part of the USSR, provided that the Western countries expand the zone of the application of confidence-building measures on their side accordingly. This major move undertaken within the framework of the Peace Programme for the 1980's put forward at the congress played the decisive part in placing the idea of such a conference, despite U.S. opposition, on a practical plane and gave a powerful positive impulse both to the Madrid meeting and, in the long term, to the further development and deepening of the all-European process. The latest Soviet appeal, which demonstrates our country's breadth of vision and high sense of political responsibility, could ensure the successful completion of the meeting in a matter of days if it is hearkened to.

In announcing its readiness to accept the amended draft of the final document submitted by the neutral and nonaligned countries on March 15, the Soviet Union took into consideration the fact that this draft generalizes, synthesizes, so to say, the results of more than two years of talks conducted by the delegations of the 35 participating countries [the amended draft is based on the document submitted by neutral and nonaligned countries on December 16, 1981]. True, it does not take into account a number of substantive points repeatedly raised by the Soviet delegation. Other participants in the meeting also probably feel that their viewpoints are not fully reflected. But on the whole the draft answers the description "meaningful and balanced" document, which is what the participating states have undertaken to complete the Madrid meeting with.

Some time ago, the head of the U.S. delegation said in an interview to the Austrian weekly WOCHENPRESSE that the amended draft of the final document was "disappointing" and that the U.S. could not accept it without substantive changes.

What is it that is so disappointing for Mr Kampelman?

In order to appraise the draft objectively, it is necessary to bear in mind, not only what it contains, but also what has been omitted from it.

What the draft does not contain is provisions running counter to the principles of the Helsinki Final Act, including such basic standards of interstate relations as sovereign equality and respect for rights inherent in sovereignty ("they will also respect each other's right freely to choose and develop its political, social, economic and cultural systems, as well as its right to determine its laws and regulations") and non-interference in internal affairs ("the participating states will refrain from any intervention, direct or indirect, individual or collective, in the internal or external affairs falling within the domestic jurisdiction of another participating state, regardless of their mutual relations").

The draft of the final document records that the participating states "agreed that renewed efforts should be made to give full effect to the Final Act through concrete action, unilateral, bilateral and multilateral, in order to restore trust and confidence between the participating states which would permit a substantial improvement in their mutual relations."

In particular, the draft voices the determination "to make detente an effective, as well as continuing, increasingly viable and comprehensive, process, universal in scope, "to develop relations of mutual cooperation, friendship and confidence," "to exert genuine efforts towards containing an increasing arms buildup as well as towards strengthening confidence and security and promoting disarmament."

The draft provides for concrete actions on all sections of the Final Act, taking into account the proposals advanced by the participating states during the deliberations at the Madrid meeting.

These primarily include the convocation of a conference on confidence-building measures, security and disarmament in Europe to open on November 15 this year. Other steps envisaged are cooperation in the spheres of the economy, science, technology and the environment, as well as in the humanitarian and other fields (people-to-people contact, exchange of information, cooperation and exchanges in the sphere of culture and education). The draft also treats of issues relating to security and cooperation in the Mediterranean and measures ensuring the continuation and further development of the all-European process, including the holding of the next meeting of the participants in the conference on security and cooperation in Europe in 1986.

It is easy to see why the U.S. delegation is "disappointed." If the above provisions are compared with the practical actions of the present U.S. Administration -- the buildup of the most dangerous armaments, in Europe and elsewhere; the imposition of sanctions and embargoes undermining normal and mutually advantageous trade and economic ties; gross pressure on other countries and interference in their internal affairs; the limitation and curtailment of cultural, humanitarian and other contacts and ties, and, lastly, the "crusade" against socialism, which is declared to be the "focus of evil." Such a political line in no way fits into the framework of the Helsinki Final Act.

Needless to say, the United States' attitude to the draft of the Madrid final document accords with its policy. But the U.S. is only one of 35 participants in the all-European forum, at which only such decisions can be adopted as take the interests of all the participants equally into account. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries have stated their position. That position coincides with the position of the group of neutral and nonaligned countries that have sponsored the draft of the final document. A serious responsibility now devolves on the Western countries affiliated with NATO. That responsibility cannot be evaded.

The Soviet Union urges the nations not to miss this opportunity to advance the cause of peace and security of the peoples. This call should find a response among all for whom the present and the future of Europe is not a matter of indifference.

IZVESTIYA REPORTS GORBACHEV DEPARTURE FROM CANADA

PM251225 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Departure From Canada"]

[Text] Calgary (Alberta), 24 May -- The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by M.S. Gorbachev, member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Legislative Proposals Commission of the USSR Supreme Soviet of the Union, which has been in Canada on an official visit, has left for home.

The delegation, which includes USSR Supreme Soviet deputies A.V. Gitalov, A.A. Yezhevskiy, A.A. Zhuchenko, O.S. Kuanyshev, and S.I. Manyakin, was in Canada at the invitation of the country's Federal Parliament.

Before its departure a meeting took place at Calgary International Airport between M.S. Gorbachev and Alberta Prime Minister P. Lougheed.

The Soviet parliamentarians were seen off by Canadian Minister of Agriculture E. Whelan, P. Lougheed, and other Canadian officials, and by A. N. Yakovlev, USSR ambassador to Canada.

BOGACHEV ON REAGAN'S TELEPHONE LINE PROPOSALS

LD251655 Moscow TASS in English 1640 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 25 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Bogachev writes:

Addressing a meeting with the leaders of the Democratic and Republican Parties in Congress, U.S. President Ronald Reagan declared his approval of the Pentagon's proposals made in April on some technical measures to improve communication between the USSR and the USA.

The President claimed that the implementation of the Pentagon's measures, which he described as new confidence building measures, would be an important contribution to strengthening stability.

It is interesting to note that over the recent month and a half Ronald Reagan has for the second time returned to the Pentagon's proposals. This time he decided to make a statement on that issue on the eve of the voting in Congress on appropriations for the deployment of the new "MX" ICBM's.

There is an impression that in proposing to install new telephone apparatuses on the Moscow-Washington line and describing these measures as those strengthening stability, the President thus hopes to bring down protests of U.S. public against the deployment of "MX" missiles, which threatens a sharp destabilisation of the military-political situation in the world.

The U.S. President is trying to use the sincere interest of the world public in a genuine build-up of confidence between the two great powers for dragging through his programs for the creation of first strike nuclear weapons.

In his statement in April on the U.S. proposals the Pentagon chief Caspar Weinberger is known to admit frankly that the present U.S. Administration believes that a "foundation of peace" is a build-up of American nuclear and conventional weapons including such destabilizing first strike systems as Pershing-2, the MX ICBM's and the SLBM's Trident-2.

In putting forward proposals on improving communication between the USSR and the USA, the U.S. Administration also clearly hopes to distract world public attention from its unconstructive obstructionist stand at the Geneva talks.

The Soviet leaders have repeatedly stressed that the main way to confidence, to preventing any war, including to a war which may break out accidentally, is through putting an end to the arms race and a return to calm proper relations between states, and to detente.

The measures proposed by the Pentagon will not by themselves allay mutual suspicion and will not restore confidence. It takes something greater -- normalisation of the situation, a renunciation of the propaganda of animosity and hatred, a propaganda of nuclear war. It takes practical actions by the U.S. Administration to demonstrate that it has good will toward ensuring peace.

IZVESTIYA HITS 'BELLICOSE' REAGAN MIAMI SPEECH

PM260845 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 83 Morning Edition p 4

["International Commentary" by R. Tuchnin: "Yearning for the 'Big Stick'"]

[Text] When a particular Washington figure is considering a public speech he is also considerably concerned about his audience: It is always more pleasant to speak where you are understood. It was obviously proceeding from this unspoken rule that U.S. President R. Reagan decided to go to Miami, to a "receptive" audience -- the motley emigre rabble expelled from the Island of Freedom by the Cuban revolution. The most flagrant attacks against the USSR and Cuba were programmed, and who better than these embittered renegades living on the handouts from the U.S. authorities and sheltered by the CIA to provide a favorable milieu for the President's speech?

Reagan's speech contained no facts, evidence or arguments borne out by reality. Indeed, he did not even set himself the goal of checking his statements against the true state of affairs. In the flow of unbridled anti-Soviet and anti-Cuban allegations, it was easy to see the White House incumbent's main political ploy -- trying in the imperialist manner to toughen Washington's course in Latin America still further and present matters as though the United States -- and it alone -- had the right to determine how the Latin American countries behave and the path of socioeconomic and political development they are allowed to choose.

So Reagan's words contained a sinister whiff of the "Monroe Doctrine" and the "gunboat diplomacy." And there is nothing strange in the fact that the President has turned his gaze with nostalgic yearning to the beginning of the century and quoted words from the gendarme foreign policy credo of his far-off predecessor, Theodore Roosevelt, concerning the "big stick" which must always be held and which he claimed had been somewhat forgotten. According to Reagan it emerges that maintaining, training and arming the Somoza cutthroats using U.S. money and then organizing their incursion into Nicaragua under the CIA's supervision is not enough, that a heavier "stick" is needed.

The result is that the lavish dollar aid to the Salvadoran rulers, who are fighting against the people using U.S. weapons under the leadership of Pentagon advisers and who are to blame for the deaths of thousands of civilians, still fails to produce the level of intervention once effected by U.S. Marines.

"We will not allow," "we will not permit..." -- it seems that in the heat of his imperial ambitions it is not a responsible statesman who is speaking but some top-ranking guardian of a region whose word is law. Diktat to other countries of the hemisphere is categorically and publicly promoted to the rank of the main instrument of U.S. foreign policy.

The White House incumbent goes even further: He makes it clear that, unless the level of U.S. interference south of the Rio Grande rises sharply "unless we are able to operate resolutely in the immediate vicinity of our country"), then beyond Latin America U.S. strength will not have the necessary deterrent effect ("who will believe us anywhere else?"). The states of the continent are thus conceived as some sort of testing range on which imperialist methods of suppressing the peoples' national liberation struggle must be honed.

The U.S. President cannot see -- or does not want to see -- the profound changes taking place in Latin America. Ideological blindness prevents him from understanding what is really taking place deep within Latin American society, where resistance to U.S. imperialist oppression is growing insuperably. Reagan prefers to pretend that there is no regional struggle by the continent's peoples, who are realizing increasingly clearly the main cause of their social and economic hardships, which consists in the harsh monopolist exploitation by their powerful northern neighbor.

In brandishing the "big stick," the White House incumbent has also raised it over those Americans who, aware of the adventurism and danger of his course in Latin America, are raising their voices in protest. An "appropriate sentence" will be passed on "those who try to create obstacles in our path," the President threatened.

U.S. journalistic circles are trying to assess from various sides the White House incumbent's bellicose speech. Some discern in it above all the intention to pressure congressmen reluctant to support in full the President's proposal to expand military aid to the dictatorial regimes of Central America. Others see the Miami speech as the start of Reagan's struggle for reelection. It is quite possible that these elements are present in the daily political game which the Republican administration is playing.

But that is still not the main point. Let us recall that at the beginning of its present term the Reagan administration brought events in Central America to the front of the stage in its global policy. As the White House menacingly announced at the time, it intended to "draw a line" against so-called "Soviet-Cuban interference" which, absurdly, it tried and continues to try to use in its political impotence to explain the social changes in the region.

But cheap myths about the "hand of Moscow and Havana" did not withstand even a brief test of time and burst like soap bubbles. And now, on the threshold of the battle for the presidency, official Washington is to all appearances obsessed by the idea of initiating for the umpteenth time: -- a campaign against the USSR and Cuba in order to distract voters' attention from the real causes of the rising anti-imperialist struggle in Latin America, and at the same time to kindle chauvinist feelings in the country with arguments about the possibility of "a dangerous decline in the U.S. reputation" unless "order is introduced" with an iron hand south of the Rio Grande, as the President's speech states.

A futile and hopeless undertaking.

VOTING ON MX MISSILE, WHITE HOUSE PRESSURE HIT

PRAVDA on House Vote

PM260920 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 26 May 83 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Under the Militarists' Thumb"]

[Text] Washington, 25 May -- The U.S. House of Representatives, under the Reagan administration's thumb, has taken a dangerous step along the path of still further fanning the arms race and stepping up the danger of nuclear war. By 239 votes to 186 the congressmen rubber-stamped the appropriation of \$625 million to the Pentagon in the current fiscal year for the further development and testing of a qualitatively new nuclear weapon system -- the MX first-strike ICBM.

These huge missiles, each equipped with 10 warheads, are, according to the administration's designs, to become the basis of a program of notorious "modernization" of the American strategic nuclear forces aimed at breaking the military equilibrium between the USSR and the United States and achieving U.S. superiority. Even according to official figures, which are clearly understated, the plans announced by the administration for the creation and deployment of 100 missiles will cost American taxpayers \$20 billion. The Pentagon plans to begin deploying them in the states of Nebraska and Wyoming in late 1986.

The outcome of the House of Representatives vote, as THE WASHINGTON POST and UPI note, was the result of a "prolonged, intensive lobbying campaign" led by President Reagan personally. In the course of this campaign the administration resorted to open "arm-twisting" of the legislators, flagrant blackmail and shameless deception. Recently, nearly every day the White House incumbent has called "on the carpet" or called on the phone the vacillating members of Congress, using classical "stick and carrot" tactics. Both the President himself and representatives of the administration engaged in "indoctrinating" legislators have spread a deliberate lie, trying to convince members of the country's highest legislative body and the public of the "need" for a highly dangerous new spiral in the arms race. Thus on the eve of the vote Reagan personally wrote an article in THE WASHINGTON POST asserting that "every vote in support of MX is a vote in support of peace, security, and substantial arms reduction." Moreover, the White House chief has repeatedly expatiated hypocritically on how the implementation of the MX program will be a "stimulus" to the Soviet-American strategic arms limitation and reduction talks. Yet the facts indicate the reverse. As THE NEW YORK TIMES notes, the creation of the MX missile complex "will help the cause of arms control only by fixing it where it is now -- deadlock." The deployment of this missile "will bring the United States and the USSR implacably closer to nuclear war."

Commenting on the result of the vote in the House, the prominent politician Senator G. Hart notes that the Reagan administration's "logic" amounts to "calling black white, calling an arms buildup arms control and calling the threat of war potential for the cause of peace." The question of appropriations for the MX program is now being submitted for a vote in the Senate. But as T. O'Neill, speaker of the House of Representatives, has stated, even if the appropriations are approved by both chambers, that is "only a temporary victory for the administration."

Senate Approval Noted

LD260851 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2150 GMT 25 May 83

[Text] Washington, 25 May (TASS) -- Following the House of Representatives, and also being led by the White House, the Senate of the U.S. Congress on Wednesday approved the allocation of \$625 million for the development and testing of the MX strategic missile system by a vote of 59 to 39.

Another big step has therefore been made in the direction of accelerating the nuclear arms race and preparing the United States for nuclear war.

During the debate a number of senators, including Edward Kennedy, John Glenn, and others, resolutely opposed the plans for the production and deployment of MX missiles, stressing that it would lead to a violation of the balance of nuclear forces between the USSR and the United States and increase the threat of nuclear war. However, the Senate did not heed the voice of reason and rubberstamped the decision of the White House, from where President Reagan had been exerting the strongest pressure on the legislators to get them to vote for the MX missile.

REAGAN PLANS FOR ABM DEFENSE SYSTEM SCORED

LD240156 Moscow in English to North American 2200 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] President Ronald Reagan's plan for an antimissile defense system in space has been roundly criticized by many scientists and military experts in the United States, too, who have expressed doubts and apprehensions about it. This is the subject of a news commentary that follows contributed by our observer Vladimir Kazanskiy. He writes the following:

When in 1972 the Soviet Union and the United States declined to conclude an agreement on strategic arms limitation and control they also agreed that it would be highly unwise to try to expand antiballistic missile or ABM systems. This was because, strange as it may seem at first glance, the ABM concept gives rise to more problems than it solves. But then, historically speaking, there has never been an absolutely effective defensive weapon. Invariably such weapons have led to the development of offensive weapons capable of coping with any existing defense system, partly, if not completely.

Now what does this mean in terms of the realities of our nuclear age? It means that even the most sophisticated ABM system involving the most advanced scientific breakthroughs can hardly be expected to prevent if only a small percentage of the incoming enemy missiles from reaching their targets. But this small percentage, given the thousands of nuclear charges in the arsenals of both sides, would amount to hundreds of nuclear warheads which would strike their targets. And that is a potential that can destroy many nations.

It's no less important that a potential adversary, knowing that the other side is developing an ABM system, would unquestionably take steps to upgrade his own offensive nuclear systems so as to penetrate the other side's defenses. In other words offensive and defensive nuclear arms are closely interrelated. It was for this reason that the Soviet Union and the United States, when concluding their 1972 interim agreement on certain measures with respect to the limitation of offensive strategic arms, at the same time concluded a treaty on the limitation of antiballistic missile defense systems. Ever since the Soviet Union, true to its practice of firmly and unswervingly honoring its international agreement, has scrupulously observed these agreements with the United States.

This, unfortunately, cannot be said of the American side. President Reagan has chosen the road of undermining the very essence of the most important arms control agreement of all, the treaty to limit ABM systems. The plans he recently announced for developing a new antimissile defense system amount to a most dangerous step in escalating the strategic nuclear arms race. These plans take the world closer to the brink of a nuclear missile war. This is not just our view. A similar view has been expressed in THE LOS ANGELES TIMES by a former official of the National Security Council during the Carter administration, Robert Hunter, who is now one of the heads of the Center for Strategic and International Studies at Georgetown University. He says the President's proposal should be seen not as a serious way of ending fears of a nuclear war but rather as an attempt to undercut the influence of the movement for a nuclear freeze on both sides. Also inevitably disturbing is the fact that the President of the United States plans to set up an ABM system in space in conjunction with already launched efforts to upgrade advanced defensive nuclear arms systems designed for a first strike.

As the Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov stressed in an interview for the West German magazine DER SPIEGEL, the adventurism and danger of this whole scheme lies in the fact that it relies on acting with impunity, on inflicting a first nuclear strike on the assumption that it will be possible to neutralize a counter strike. This is what makes the new American military concept so dangerous. It can only take the world still closer to a nuclear catastrophe.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA HITS U.S. EUROPEAN BASE STRATEGY

PM201427 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 20 May 83 First Edition p 3

[Article by Dr of Military Sciences Maj Gen R. Simonyan, based on foreign press materials, under the rubric "Bridgeheads of Aggression": "West Europe Is a U.S. Nuclear Hostage"]

[Text] Washington's military-political strategy in the postwar years has constantly changed, adapting to the changing situation in the world. But the gamble on strength, on building up a military presence miles from the United States, has always remained. This also applies in full to the present strategy of "direct confrontation," which is based to a greater extent than before on enlarging and improving American military bases in foreign lands.

Today we begin publishing a series of articles exposing the aggressive essence of the U.S. global base system.

"To put it in military language," H. Baldwin, a military commentator close to the Pentagon, wrote, "we need lines of outposts abroad so that we can wage war in the hope of success. We need foreign bases as springboards for an attack on the central regions of Russia." Thus, the true aims -- although far from all the aims -- of American imperialism's base strategy are admitted with the utmost cynicism. American imperialism, which has assumed the role of a world policeman, also needs military bases as outposts which it can use to dispatch troops quickly to suppress national liberation movements, to carry out armed interference in the affairs of developing countries, and to assist antipopular regimes which are to Washington's liking. The United States now has 1,500 military installations on the territory of 32 states. There are large air and naval bases, operational-tactical missile positions, nuclear weapon, ammunition, & supply depots, posts for monitoring airspace and outer space, shore stations for the hydroacoustic detection of submarines, radio and radio-engineering intelligence centers, communications centers, and other installations for various purposes. Approximately half a million American servicemen are permanently stationed at them.

The military bases in West Europe or, as the Pentagon prefers to say, in the European theater of war, occupy a special place in the U.S. global base system. "West Europe," U.S. Under Secretary of State Eagleburger declared, "is the center of our global rivalry with the Soviet Union."

More than 7,000 nuclear warheads are stored at the special depots set up within this "theater" under the control of an American command. More than 700 American delivery vehicles for medium-range nuclear weapons and more than 600 operational-tactical missiles and nuclear artillery pieces are concentrated there. They are capable of delivering nuclear ammunition a distance of 30-2,000 km.

But even this is not enough for Washington. It is proposed to begin deploying new American medium-range nuclear systems in West Europe this year -- 108 Pershing II missile launchers and 464 ground-launched cruise missiles. It is planned to deploy them on the territory of the FRG (108 Pershing II launchers and 96 cruise missiles), Italy (112 cruise missiles), and Belgium and the Netherlands (48 cruise missiles each).

The U.S. and NATO intention to deploy these missiles in West Europe poses a special threat to the cause of peace. Their aim is to change the existing correlation of forces in their favor, create an additional nuclear first strike potential, and prepare the material base for waging a so-called "limited" nuclear war in the illusory hope of victory. In fact the United States is exposing its European NATO allies to a counterstrike, turning them into hostages of its nuclear strategy.

For the majority of countries in West Europe where the American nuclear weapons will be deployed, this counterstrike could be the last, Marshal of the Soviet Union D.F. Ustinov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of defense, has declared. In that case the United States will not go unpunished either. If Washington reckons that we will respond to the use of Pershings and cruise missiles just by striking at targets in West Europe, it is profoundly mistaken. Retribution will inevitably come also to the United States itself.

American military bases and garrisons (with nuclear and conventional weapons) are concentrated in three regions. Their most ramified network is in central Europe. There are 200 major military installations on FRG territory alone, at which up to 240,000 American servicemen are stationed. The Pentagon intends to relocate part of these troops close to the GDR border so as to reduce the time needed to commit them to combat action.

In the north and south of Europe American military bases form two large arcs -- the northern one passes through Britain, Iceland, Norway, and Denmark, and the southern one through Spain, Italy, Greece, and Turkey. There are more than 20 American bases in Britain. The biggest of them is the forward base for nuclear-powered missile submarines at Holy Loch. The Pentagon also allocates an important role to its air bases in that country, which are suitable for various categories of combat aircraft, including strategic bombers.

Iceland has the American base at Keflavik to service aircraft of the U.S. and NATO navies and air forces. Its strategic significance is determined by its location close to the very important lines of communication linking the countries of Europe and North America.

The Pentagon is devoting increased attention to Norway. It is accounted for, above all, by the fact that Norway borders on the Soviet polar region. Preparatory work has been done on the country's territory for deployment of U.S. heavy military hardware.

The airports at Gardemoen, Bodo, and Bardufoss are equipped with underground hangars and depots in case a combined NATO air force should be based there. Some 15 large civilian airports have been modernized in accordance with the demands of the bloc's command. On the country's coast there are three naval bases, several base points, and numerous bays which can be used for the dispersed basing of NATO warships.

A network of headquarters of the combined NATO armed forces, three large naval bases (Copenhagen, Frederikshavn, and Korsor), four airports, and other military installations are located in Denmark. Since 1951 Greenland, which belongs to Denmark, has been included in the so-called "American continental security zone" within the NATO system and has been turned into an extensive American military bridgehead in the Arctic. Two air bases, including Thule -- the biggest in these northern regions -- and several naval base points have been constructed there.

A ramified system of bases has been created in the southern part of West Europe. On Spanish territory there are large air bases at Torrejon and Zaragoza (for U.S. strategic aircraft) and an important air and sea complex at Rota (for American nuclear-powered submarines patrolling the Mediterranean). The American magazine MILITARY REVIEW emphasizes that Spain occupies an advantageous position, being a connecting link with the main ports in the Mediterranean and reinforcing the military structure on NATO's southern flank from the rear.

A still more important place in the Pentagon's base strategy is allocated to Italy. The shore headquarters of the U.S. 6th Fleet is located in Naples. Incorporating one or two aircraft carriers with as many as 160-180 aircraft on board, including more than 80 equipped to carry nuclear weapons, this fleet, in the estimation of Western military specialists, represents the main force of the bloc's assault fleet in the south European theater of military operations. In addition, the United States has built a large number of bases in more than 25 regions of the country.

Washington is now seeking to turn the territory of Italy not only into a launch site for American cruise missiles. As can be seen from a report in the Milan weekly PANORAMA, American-NATO strategists plan to create a number of additional bases in Italy for "emergency" military operations in the Mediterranean with the participation of the 6th Fleet, the interventionist U.S. Rapid Deployment Force, and also American troops which could quickly be transferred to the Apennines from Central Europe. Thus, Italy is allocated the role of a springboard from which American troops could carry out a massive invasion of the Near and Middle East. Evidently taking into account the special stand taken by the present Spanish and Greek Governments with regard to American bases, P. Abruzzese, a member of the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee, declared that Italy is America's only reliable ally in the Mediterranean.

Washington is seeking to preserve at all costs its bases in Greece, where the movement for their liquidation is spreading daily. The significance of the 4 large bases located there (at Athens and Nea Makri and 2 on Crete) and more than 10 other U.S. military installations is determined by the fact that they are located on territory adjacent to the borders of socialist community states and at the intersection of airways and seaways linking Europe with the Near East and Africa.

In Turkey, which borders on Soviet Transcaucasia, as well as on Iran, Iraq, and Syria, the Pentagon has 60 military installations, including 7 large bases. American intelligence posts operate in the regions of Sinop, Karamursel, Diyarbakir, and (Belbashi) with a view to obtaining espionage information about the USSR's defense strength.

Washington strategists also intend to use the territories of Turkey and Greece as well as Italy as transshipment points in case of urgent transfers of the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force to the Near and Middle East, which has been proclaimed a zone of U.S. "vital interests." The threat which this prospect poses to countries which are being turned into assistants of the transatlantic policeman may be judged from Pantagon chief Weinberger's secret instructions, as reported in THE NEW YORK TIMES. When it is a question of "a direct threat to U.S. vital interests," the instructions state, the United States must abandon the universally recognized norms of respect for other peoples' sovereign rights and noninterference in their internal affairs.

As we see, Washington has created in the so-called European theater of war the most dense network of military bases and concentrated there the largest grouping of its armed forces, with a total strength of approximately 350,000. Their deployment in regions adjacent to the borders of the socialist community countries, the buildup of the latest weapons systems, including nuclear weapons systems, the creation of a first strike potential, and the offensive nature of operational and combat training, as well as other war preparations, show most clearly that this "theater" is regarded by the U.S. military-political leadership, above all, as the chief bridgehead of aggression against the USSR and its allies.

U.S. HOUSE FOREIGN AFFAIRS COMMITTEE ON SANCTIONS

Administration's 'Disrespect'

LD192145 Moscow TASS in English 1856 GMT 19 May 83

[Text] Washington May 19 TASS -- The U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee has dealt a serious blow to the plans of the Reagan administration at making even wider use of all sorts of economic ("sanctions") and trade bans as an instrument of foreign-policy blackmail. The committee has rejected by a majority of 15 votes against eight the legislative proposal that the president be granted powers to "punish" foreign companies for "unauthorized" deliveries of goods to the Soviet Union. This decision was passed in the course of the hearings, which examined the question of prolonging the term of the law on exports control. The White House proposed a number of essential amendments to the law whose adoption would give the administration unlimited powers to use discriminatory economic measures under the pretext of "achieving foreign-policy aims."

As L. Hamilton, committee member (democrat from Indiana state, said, the punishment of foreign entrepreneurs is a manifestation of absolutely unjustified extra-territorial ambitions of the USA, which has no right to seek control over business activities in foreign territory.

He pointed out that the use of sanctions against western companies doing trade with the socialist countries has no support from the allies of the United States and is "absolutely ineffective". In that connection Hamilton recalled the fiasco of the attempts made by the White House at the construction of the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline. He also pointed out that the administration's notorious sanctions have been a crying violation of American laws, which require that such measures be agreed with the congress. By refusing to do so, the administration has displayed utter disrespect for the legislators.

The ineffectiveness of the attempts of the USA at using all sorts of "sanctions" and embargo as an instrument of political pressure is also pointed out by experts of the Bureau for the Evaluation of Technology under the U.S. Congress.

The report issued by the bureau admits that such practices hit heavily against the American interests, cause discord in the Western alliance and created for the United States a reputation of an untrustworthy trade partner.

TASS Analyst on Reaction

LD191537 Moscow TASS in English 1528 GMT 9 May 83

["Meeting with Strong Opposition" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow May 19 TASS -- TASS news analyst Ivan Ablamov writes:

The U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee has rejected an amendment proposed by the Reagan administration to the export control law, on whose strength it would be able to "punish" foreign companies refusing to subordinate to Washington's diktat in trade with the socialist countries, with a ban on their exports to the USA. The American congressmen have explained their decision by the fear that the administration's discriminatory measures would increase transatlantic discord, deepen the split with the allies, which will not wish to subordinate to the American "sanctions".

There are weighty reasons for such a viewpoint. The new legislative proposals on toughening control over East-West trade have touched off a stormy reaction in Western Europe. In an official memorandum to Washington, which was "unusually tough", as was pointed out in the West, the Common Market expressed a protest against the flouting of international law and usurping the sovereign rights of other states.

The intention of the Reagan administration to arrogate itself the "right" to tell the Western partners with whom and on what terms they should do trade was justly evaluated in Western Europe as well as in Japan, Canada and other countries as an expression of Washington's imperial ways, its reluctance to change a bit its policy of hegemonism.

The Americans are meeting with opposition from West Europeans also on economic issues. Under the conditions of the recession, enormous unemployment rate, the encroachments of the USA upon the traditional commodity markets of the EEC, the prospect of a forcible reduction of beneficial ties with the socialist countries was evaluated in Western capitals as the wish of the USA to hamper for its partners the efforts to end the crisis, as an expression of the wish to undermine the positions of the rivals. The future of the West European economy depends in a large measure on the state of trade, whose share in Western Europe's gross national product is two to three times higher than the respective indicator of the USA. The stand of the West European countries inevitably influences the American congressmen, whether they in Washington wish this or not.

The legislators also reckon with the interests of the major American companies having branches in Western Europe or actually controlling West European firms, which are officially considered to be independent. "Putting the screw" on these monopolies would mean causing damage to American business. Business circles in the USA and the other Western countries have learned from the sorry experience of the American sanctions against the Siberia-Western Europe gas pipeline that sanctions do by far more damage to the Western exporter countries than to the Soviet development programmes.

The move of the House committee is clearly aimed at bringing down tensions on the eve of the meeting of the "big seven" in Williamsburg (USA) scheduled to be held late in May. But judging by press reports, Washington, which is going straight ahead, is bent on forcing on the allies its terms of trade with the socialist countries. This has been, as a matter of fact, confirmed by U.S. Deputy Commerce Secretary [title as received] Lawrence Brady who insisted in his address to the commission on the approval of the administration's measures by the Congress.

KENNAN CALL FOR BETTER U.S.-USSR RELATIONS CITED

LD181432 Moscow TASS in English 1408 GMT 18 May 83

[Text] Washington May 18 TASS -- The prominent U.S. historian, diplomat and public figure, former U.S. Ambassador to the Soviet Union George Kennan came out for improved Soviet-American relations, the development of an all-round cooperation between the USSR and the USA, curbing the arms race and preventing the threat of war. Speaking at a meeting of the American Committee for East-West Accord, he pointed out that the Soviet-American relations which have been deteriorating over the past several years have reached a state that can only generate apprehensions and fear. The public discussion of these relations, at least in the USA, has assumed such a militarist character to it that it may seem to some that an armed conflict is the only possible way to resolve the differences.

The danger of this, George Kennan said, would be big even if our two countries were armed only with conventional weapons. In his opinion, U.S. politicians ought to give up accelerating the arms race, and the tough rhetoric with regard to the USSR. There is a lot of convincing evidence, George Kennan said, that the Soviet Union does not want a war and seriously regards its prevention as a top priority.

Washington's current attempts to ascribe to the Soviet Union "aggressive intentions," the desire for "domination" and "threats," are, in the opinion of George Kennan, unworthy of people charged with responsibility to make decisions in this threatened world. In the relations with the Soviet Union, the issues of arms control constitute the biggest problem, without a headway in which there is little hope for a peaceful future. George Kennan thinks that the Washington administration needs to shake off its pathological nuclear obsession. Nuclear weapons cannot be used without inviting a catastrophe on ourselves and on hundreds of millions of other people. Recognizing this, we could then dismiss all our dreams of superiority and think over what can be done to reduce the existing arsenals while proceeding towards their total liquidation.

As George Kennan pointed out, the USSR and the USA have areas of common interests, which are not confined to the need to preserve peace. Both our countries, he said, are great industrial powers, and as such we have many common problems in whose resolution we could cooperate. These include environmental protection, scientific exchanges, studies of the Arctic and the Antarctic, joint efforts in the field of oceanography, health and peaceful uses of nuclear energy. The vast area of outer space, the scientists said, must not only be demilitarized but genuinely internationalized.

DEMICHEV RECEIVES DRA CULTURE COMMITTEE HEAD

PK251228 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Talk Held"]

[Text] P.N. Demichev, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and USSR minister of culture, received Abdol (Kadyr Ashna), chairman of the DRA State Committee for Culture on 19 May.

Their talk, which was held in a warm, friendly atmosphere, touched on questions of the further development of cooperation in the sphere of culture and art between the USSR and the DRA.

PEOPLE'S RULE SAID CONSOLIDATING IN DRA

LD211933 Moscow in SERBO-CROATIAN to Yugoslavia 1600 GMT 21 May 83

[Unidentified correspondent's report from Kabul]

[Text] There are many indications that people's rule is consolidating in Afghanistan. The ranks of the PDPA, which placed itself at the head of the April Revolution in 1978, are growing. At that time the party had about 18,000 members; now the number of members has increased to nearly 100,000. The National Fatherland Front has become a truly mass organization. It unites all patriotic organizations, trade unions, and representatives of various strata of the population, including Muslim dignitaries and tribal and nomadic representatives. Local newspapers publish the resolutions of district jirgas, or gatherings, whose participants approve government policy and the progressive transformations it is carrying out. They state that they are ready to defend revolutionary achievements such as just distribution of land, free education and health service, ensuring the equality of all citizens, liquidation of oppression, and the exploitation of man by man.

It is characteristic that a large number of Afghans who earlier, either through deception or threats, were drawn into counterrevolutionary gangs are now breaking with their past and going over to the people's side. The government amnesty decree guarantees full freedom and civil rights to the misguided, as they are called here.

Amnesty has also been declared for persons who have been captured while bearing arms and who have been brought to trial but later repented their crimes. The first batch of 200 such persons has been freed in Kabul by amnesty. The former members of counterrevolutionary gangs have stated that they are ready to return to peaceful work and they have promised that they will never again use arms against the revolution.

The leaders of the Afghan Milliyat organization have stated that they are ceasing enemy activity against the government and people of the DRA. This organization joined the counterrevolution when imperialism, led by the United States, began the undeclared war against revolutionary Afghanistan. One can see from the statement by the Afghan milliyat leadership published in Kabul that the actions of this organization were controlled by agents of the American CIA and by British intelligence. And now, the Afghan Milliyat leaders have stated that the organization is being disbanded and have called on its former members to make efforts to achieve the noble goals of the April Revolution.

WEST STEPS UP 'SUBVERSIVE ACTIONS' AGAINST POLAND

PM240940 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 23 May 83 Second Edition p 3

[Text] Warsaw, 23 May -- Numerous facts show that the U.S. CIA and other centers of espionage and subversion of NATO countries lately have drastically stepped up subversive actions against the Polish People's Republic in their attempt to prevent, by all means, the process of normalization of the situation in the country, new newspaper ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI stresses.

In doing this, the anti-communist centers have the support of influential political circles in some Western countries, first of all the United States, the paper points out.

Thus, in December 1982 U.S. Vice President George Bush and the chairman of the reactionary American AFL-CIO trade union association had a meeting with representatives of the anti-Polish emigre scum who are on the CIA's payroll. They decided to "mount a struggle for restoring the activity" of the banned Solidarity trade union association and to "demand" of the governments of a number of West European countries to put pressure on the Polish authorities and to continue the so-called policy of "economic sanctions" on Poland.

After that meeting, the paper continues, various subversive centers stepped up their malicious anti-Polish campaign. Thus the so called "International Committee of Aid for Solidarity, which is controlled by the AFL-CIO and maintains close contacts with the American Government and special services, made an attempt to set up a Solidarity subversive radio station on the territory of Western Europe close to Poland's borders. As to the CIA, through its agent in Western Europe Brown, formally known as "representative" of the AFL-CIO, it undertook the financing of "camps for the training of activists" from among the renegades who fled from Poland. Such "camps" are being set up in the United States Britain, the FRG and France.

Such actions, ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI stresses, can be qualified only as rude interference in the internal affairs of the Polish People's Republic, as an attempt to further aggravate the international situation. [Moscow TASS in English at 1546 GMT on 23 May carried an identical report which adds at this point: "...and undermine the achievements of the process of detente."]

POLISH MINISTER URBAN ON WALESA, U.S. SANCTIONS

LD242023 Moscow TASS in English 1840 GMT 24 May 83

[Text] Warsaw 24 May (PAP) -- At today's press conference held at the Interpress center here, the government press spokesman, Minister Jerzy Urban, answered numerous questions put by foreign newsmen.

Asked about the possibility of John Paul II's meeting Lech Walesa during the pope's visit to Poland, Minister Urban declared that "such a meeting does not figure in the official programme of the visit" and that "nothing is known that the pope wants to have a meeting with Walesa". "The government believes," added Jerzy Urban, "that the good of the country demands that Mr Walesa conduct no public activity because this activity helps to exacerbate political conflicts in Poland rather than lessening them.

Referring to the latest statement on Poland by the White House spokesman, Minister Urban said: "I can comment on facts, on deeds on the American Administration, but there is no reason to comment on the words which, in an unclear, unspecified way, speak of the possibility for changes in the American policy. When these changes to Poland's benefit take place, we will welcome such action with appreciation.

"Yet it follows from American statements that they are still tying the American-Polish relations to Poland's internal policy. Let me say it once more, that American hopes and imaginations of this kind are unrealistic and that we reject any possibility of connecting the Polish-American relations with the way the Polish authorities will conduct policy in Poland."

Answering a question about the negative effects of American sanctions on the Polish economy, Minister Urgan replied that because of a gradual re-orientation of Poland's cooperation towards the CMEA countries, the Soviet Union in particular, this impact was growing weak.

He added that nonetheless, these sanctions were still being felt, especially in the processing industry and food economy, where the lack of fodder led to a decline in animal breeding thus cutting down the consumption of meat and meat products.

Replying to a question about amnesty and its possible proclamation before the papal visit to Poland, the spokesman said: "We do not rule out an act of amnesty as an act closing a certain period of history in Poland. Amnesty will be declared when favourable conditions for it take place."

"New trade unions," added the minister, "are coming into being on the basis of the formula signed in Gdansk, which means that they are independent and self-governed." On the question of trade union pluralism, Jerzy Urban said: "The party is of the opinion that in the interests of the working class the trade union movement should be united and because of that stronger, that division leads to conflicts and rivalry and these tendencies increase pressure on wage hikes and other demands, unsubstantiated in many cases, for such is the logic of rivalry."

To a question concerning the agenda of the nearest plenary meeting of the PUWP Central Committee, Minister Urban answered that "the agenda will be published at the proper time."

IZVESTIYA NOTES LIFTING OF POLISH MILK RATIONING

LD260916 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 23 May 83 Morning Edition p 3

[Untitled TASS report under the "In Brief" heading]

[Text] As reported by PAP, the rationing of certain food products, in particular, butter, milk, and margarine, will be suspended in Poland from 1 June by order of the Ministry of Domestic Trade and Services.

CSSR PROTESTS SUDETEN GERMAN RALLY IN AUSTRIA

'Open Challenge' to Detente

PM251510 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 25 May 83 p 3

[TASS report: "Revanchist Gathering in Vienna"]

[Text] Prague, 24 May -- The holding in Vienna of a gathering of the revanchist organization the "Landsmannschaft [exiles' association] of Sudeten Germans" is an open challenge to the detente policy and a flagrant attempt to sow the seeds of hostility between states in East and West, RUDE PRAVO notes in a commentary.

It is very sad, the newspaper notes, that the revanchists gathered in neutral Austria and that the gathering was officially opened by Austrian President R. Kirchschlaeger.

The so-called "Sudeten German Days" are directed at the revision of the results of World War II and against the policy of peaceful coexistence and the development of relations between peoples. The orgy was supported by the forces of revanchism and great-German chauvinism, whose actions constitute a serious threat to Austria's sovereignty.

History will not tolerate falsification. As is known, the Sudeten Germans participated actively in the occupation of Czechoslovakia and in the Nazi terror against the country's peaceful population. But these historical facts were bypassed in silence in Vienna.

The voices of hatred which emanated from the Austrian capital tried in every way to blacken not only socialist Czechoslovakia, but the principles of peaceful coexistence between states with different social systems, and to erase the gains of the detente policy, RUDE PRAVO stresses in conclusion.

The revanchist gathering of the "Landsmannschaft of Sudeten Germans" in the capital of neutral Austria is a gross violation of international legal treaties and an act which can only lead to a deterioration in good-neighborly relations and cooperation between peoples, a statement issued here by the Czechoslovak Union of Antifascist Fighters stresses. Serious concern is also aroused by the fact that through their participation in this orgy the leaders of the Austrian Republic indirectly supported the revanchist ambitions of the "Landsmannschaft of Sudeten Germans."

'Strong Protest' Lodged

PM260910 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 Mar 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "CSSR Government Protest"]

[Text] Prague, 22 May -- The Czechoslovak Government has lodged a strong protest with the Austrian authorities over a gathering of the revanchist "Association of Sudeten Germans" organization held in Vienna.

Holding a revanchist jamboree in the Austrian capital, a RUDE PRAVO commentary stresses, contravenes the principles of Austria's permanent neutrality and violates the country's constitution -- the State Treaty, which provides for the disbandment of organizations engaged in activities hostile to states belonging to the anti-Hitler coalition.

The so-called "Sudeten German Days," the newspaper points out, are aimed at revising the results of World War II and against the policy of relaxing tension and of East-West dialogue.

POLYAKOV ON OFFICIAL 'FRIENDLY' VISIT IN ROMANIA

PM251433 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 83 Morning Edition p 4

[Report by unnamed IZVESTIYA and TASS correspondents: "USSR Supreme Soviet Delegation Visit"]

[Text] Bucharest [no date given] -- A USSR Supreme Soviet delegation headed by I.Ye. Polyakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, has arrived here on an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Romanian Grand National Assembly.

At the capital's airport, decked with the state flags of the USSR and Romania, the delegation was welcomed by N. Giosan, chairman of the Romanian Grand National Assembly; V. Toedorescu and E. Sonea, vice chairman of the Grand National Assembly; and other officials. The welcoming party included Ye.M. Tyazhelnikov, USSR ambassador to Romania.

On the same day, a meeting took place between the delegation and the chairman of the Romanian Grand National Assembly. During the talk, N. Giosan stressed that the supreme legislative organs of Romania and the USSR are making a great contribution to the development and consolidation of friendly relations between our countries and peoples. Pursuing a policy of peace and cooperation, Romania is primarily developing relations with neighboring socialist states. We assess highly, he said, the importance of the Prague Political Declaration of the Warsaw Pact states for defending the socialist community against imperialist aggression and safeguarding peace and the peoples' security.

Touching on the Romanian people's successes in socialist building, N. Giosan noted that they would have been impossible without close cooperation with the socialist countries and primarily the Soviet Union. The Grand National Assembly chairman expressed the conviction that the fraternal friendship and cooperation between the RCP and the CPSU and between the two countries' peoples will continue to develop and strengthen.

In his answering speech, the leader of the Soviet parliamentary delegation described the peace-loving policy of the CPSU and the Soviet state, their consistent struggle for peace, security, detente, and disarmament and against the danger of a new war, and the Soviet people's achievements and tasks in building communism.

The USSR Supreme Soviet delegation laid wreaths at the monuments to V.I. Lenin and the Soviet servicemen who died in the struggle to liberate Romania from fascism. A wreath was also laid at the monument to the heroes of the struggle for the freedom of the people and the motherland and for socialism.

The Grand National Assembly chairman gave a dinner in honor of the Soviet parliamentarians.

USSR - ROMANIAN AMITY BODY CELEBRATES JUBILEE

PM201307 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 83 First Edition p 4

[Text] Moscow (TASS) -- The Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society's 25th anniversary was marked by a ceremonial session of the society's Central Board in Moscow 18 May. It was addressed by V.I. Konotop, chairman of the society's Central Board and first secretary of the Moscow CPSU Obkom, and I. Cumpanasu, leader of the Romanian-Soviet Friendship Society delegation. T. Dudas, Romanian ambassador to the USSR, presented the society with the Romanian award, the order "For Services in the Sphere of Culture," first class. Society activists were presented with honorary badges and diplomas of the Union of Soviet Societies for Friendship and Cultural Relations With Foreign Countries.

Bucharest, 19 May -- A ceremonial meeting to mark the 25th anniversary of the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society was held here yesterday. I. Tripsa, member of the Romanian-Soviet Friendship Society leadership and state secretary of the Romanian Ministry of Education and Instruction, noted in his report that in those 25 years the Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society has grown into a large organization and has become an important factor in the development and strengthening of friendship between the two countries and peoples. The Soviet-Romanian Friendship Society's activity is well known and highly rated in Romania.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON SWEDISH CP CONGRESS

CPSU Greeting

PM251336 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the 27th Swedish Workers' Party-Communist Congress:

Dear Comrades!

The CPSU Central Committee sends fraternal greetings to the delegates to the 27th Workers' Party-Communists Congress and to all members and supporters of the party and wishes success in the congress' work. Your congress has been convened at a time of a sharp worsening of the international situation as a result of the actions of aggressive circles of the United States and NATO, which are striving to achieve military superiority and step up the arms race, which has now entered a new and more dangerous phase and contains the threat of a slide by mankind into nuclear catastrophe. Under these conditions, paramount significance is assumed by the cohesion and activation of the actions of social and political forces and the popular masses in order to bar the way to war.

Soviet Communists know that your party, which is waging an active struggle for the vital interests and social and democratic rights of Swedish working people and against the offensive by the monopolies, is also making a considerable contribution to launching a broad antiwar movement in Sweden, is firmly opposing Washington's intention to deploy new nuclear missile systems in a number of West European countries come what may, and is struggling to transform northern Europe into a zone free from nuclear weapons. At a time when reactionary imperialist circles are trying to organize a "crusade" against the socialist countries, the communist movement, and the peoples' liberation struggle, the Workers' Party-Communists is firmly rebuffing anti-Sovietism and anticommunism, is defending real socialism from consistently internationalist positions and is advocating the strengthening of friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Swedish peoples.

The CPSU Central Committee wishes the Workers' Party-Communists success in its activity, the strengthening of its ties with the masses, and [success] in the struggle for the interests of Sweden's working people and for peace, democracy and socialism.

Long Live Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism!

May friendship between our people develop and strengthen!

Long live peace throughout the world!

[Signed] CPSU Central Committee

CPSU's Ptitsyn Address

PM251028 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 23 May 83 First Edition p 4

[Dispatch from unnamed PRAVDA and TASS correspondents under the rubric "In the Fraternal Parties": "At the APK Congress"]

[Text] Stockholm, 22 May -- The 27th Swedish Workers Party-Communists (APK) Congress is continuing its work here.

As has already been reported, yesterday's evening session was addressed by CPSU delegation head V.N. Ptitsyn, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Murmansk CPSU Obkom. The world situation, he said, continues to deteriorate dangerously through the fault of the forces of imperialism, headed by the United States. The NATO and U.S. plans to deploy new U.S. medium-range nuclear missiles as a first-strike weapons in a number of West European countries pose a particular threat. This would inevitably mean a new round of the nuclear arms race.

The CPSU and the Soviet Government are firmly and consistently pursuing their unvarying and principled policy in international affairs, which is aimed at safeguarding peace, thwarting imperialism's aggressive schemes, and ensuring peaceful coexistence, mutual understanding, and cooperation among peoples. As regards Europe, it is the Soviet Union which is offering a real zero option for solving the problem of nuclear arms on our continent, one which envisages liberating Europe from both medium-range and tactical nuclear weapons. This offer was recently reaffirmed by Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

The CPSU delegation head went to talk about the tremendous work being done by the Soviet people under the Communist Party's leadership to implement long-term, peaceful, and constructive plans, resolve economic and social tasks, and develop socialist democracy.

In the course of the speeches and the debate on the report representatives of party organizations from various parts of Sweden have voiced their commitment to the ideas of Marx and Lenin and spoken of the need to intensify the struggle to secure a lasting peace and to involve broad circles of the population in this activity. They have been calling for the party's links with the masses to be strengthened and for its role in defending the working class' interests to be increased.

CPSU CENTRAL COMMITTEE GREET'S SWISS PARTY CONGRESS

PM251122 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 83 First Edition p 1

[Text] To the 12th Swiss Labor Party Congress:

The CPSU Central Committee sends fraternal greetings to the delegates to the 12th Swiss Labor Party Congress and wishes for success in the congress' work.

The imperialist circles, headed by the United States, which have proclaimed a "crusade" against the forces of socialism, democracy, and peace have complicated the international situation in a dangerous way. They have launched a reckless arms race in an attempt to achieve military superiority over the socialist countries. It is with that aim that they intend, come what may, to deploy new nuclear missiles in Western Europe, including countries which are Switzerland's neighbors. Under these conditions paramount significance attaches to the struggle of the people's masses in the European countries, on which our continent's fate very much depends.

The CPSU and the Soviet people are convinced that real opportunities exist for reversing the present dangerous developments in the world. That is the aim of the peace-loving and honest proposals of the Soviet Union and its friends -- the socialist countries. The implementation of those proposals would make it possible to divert the threat of war from the European peoples.

A peace-loving foreign policy stems from the very nature of Soviet society.

The steady improvement of working people's prosperity and the flowering of the spiritual and creative potential of all the peoples and the ethnic groups of the Soviet Union and each Soviet person are its supreme interest.

Soviet Communists, true to the great internationalist ideas of Marx, Engels, and Lenin, view with sentiments of solidarity the Swiss Communists' struggle for the interests of their country's working class against the omnipotence of the monopolies. We wish the fraternal Swiss Labor Party success in its activity and in strengthening its party ranks on a class and internationalist basis.

Long live the Swiss Labor Party!

Long live international solidarity among communists!

Long live peace and the security of the peoples!

[Signed] The CPSU Central Committee

FINNISH PRESIDENT TO VISIT MOSCOW IN JUNE

LD232143 Moscow TASS in English 2057 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 24 TASS -- At the invitation of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Soviet Government and the President of the Finnish Republic Mauno Koivisto will pay an official visit to the Soviet Union in the first half of June this year.

CPSU DELEGATION RETURNS FROM DANISH CP CONGRESS

PM201151 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 20 May 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Return to Moscow"]

[Text] A CPSU delegation headed by A.E. Voss, member of the CPSU Central Committee and first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, which has been participating in the work of the 27th Danish Communist Party Congress, returned from Copenhagen to Moscow on 17 May.

LUXEMBOURG CP DELEGATION RECEIVED BY SIZOV

PM101626 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 May 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Delegation's visit"]

[Text] A delegation of Luxembourg Communist Party [PCL] activists led by (F.) Huebsch, member of the PCL Central Committee Executive Committee, was in the Soviet Union 30 April through 7 May at the invitation of the CPSU Central Committee. The Luxembourg comrades participated in the May Day celebrations and made a trip to Volgograd. The delegation was received by G.F. Sizov, chairman of the CPSU Central Auditing Commission.

The PCL delegation members noted Soviet people's great successes in creative labor and underscored the great significance of the USSR's peace initiatives, which meet the vital interests of all peoples.

'REAL AIM' OF U.S. POLICY ON LEBANON SCORED

LD260835 Moscow TASS in English 0715 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS -- "The Washington-drafted Lebano-Israeli accord," the newspaper SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes today, "in general repeats the Egyptian-Israeli treaty which the Arabs rightfully described as a capitulatory deal and a disgrace for Cairo." The accord is built around Israeli 'security' and a cynical infringement on the interests of Lebanon, which is a victim of the aggression. Diplomatic parlance apart, it will become clear that the deal closed is a direct encroachment of Israel and the United States on the territorial integrity, state sovereignty, and national dignity of Lebanon.

Its main aim is to record formally the results of the Israeli intervention, to help the aggressor annex the southern regions of Lebanon, to wrest the country from the rest of the Arab states, and to subordinate it to unlimited U.S.-Israeli diktat.

"An undisguised attempt is being made on the basis of the accord to turn Lebanon into a strategic military springboard for escalating military, political, and economic expansion of U.S. imperialism and its Israeli ally in the Arab world." SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes.

U.S. officials still keep talking about Washington's 'peace-making mission' in the Middle East, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA writes. "In actual fact Washington's entire policy is turning the region into a powder keg. The Lebano-Israeli accord is a plan fraught with the threat of a new war, specifically, a real threat of a fresh Israeli aggression, this time against Syria.

"Sweet talk about Washington's interest in attaining peace in that region is nothing more than a bluff," the paper writes. The real aim of U.S. policy there is to destabilize the situation, provoke conflicts from which U.S. expansionists could stand to gain, to build up military presence and open possibilities for a new aggression against Arab countries, for destroying the Palestine Liberation Organization, strangling the Lebanese patriotic forces, turning the Middle East into an Eden for Israel and a real hell for the Arabs. This is the real meaning of the so-called Camp David process, the notorious Reagan plan which is an extension of Camp David accords and the Lebano-Israeli agreement which is one more step in the same direction.

SOVIETS, EGYPTIANS SIGN TRADE PROTOCOL

LD261156 Moscow TASS in English 1128 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 26 TASS -- The Soviet Union and Egypt signed their first protocol on goods exchange since 1977 in Moscow today. It calls for a dramatic increase in trade between the two countries in 1983.

Husayn Ahmad Husayn, Egypt's deputy economics minister, who heads the Egyptian delegation, said at the signing ceremony that the talks had been held in a frank and positive atmosphere, promoted better mutual understanding, and laid the groundwork for expanding economic cooperation.

The head of the Soviet delegation, Deputy Foreign Trade Minister Ivan Grishin, told TASS that for reasons beyond the Soviet Union's control, after the signing of the protocol on goods exchanges for 1977 the sides had not held official talks and traded with each other on the basis of unofficially agreed upon lists of goods supplied to each other.

Thanks to the efforts of the organisations and agencies conducting bilateral trade the two countries managed both to preserve mutually beneficial trade and even increase it. In 1978 Soviet-Egyptian trade stood at 345 million roubles. In 1982 the figure grew to reach 521 million roubles.

The preservation and development of trade relations between the two countries, Ivan Grishin said, played a positive role in improving inter-state relations.

The signing of the new protocol and a number of other agreements on trade between the Soviet Union and Egypt, he said, would dramatically expand mutually beneficial trade.

U.S. USE OF EGYPTIAN MILITARY BASE DISCUSSED

PM241552 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 24 May 83 First Edition p 5

[Report by own correspondent V. Peresada] "Egypt's Decision"

[Text] Cairo, 23 May -- Washington has failed in its attempt to make Cairo accept U.S. control of Egypt's Ra's Banas military base on the shores of the Red Sea. This is evidenced by the results of the recent talks on the base which the United States wants to convert into a stronghold for the interventionist Rapid Deployment Force intended for the Near East.

The U.S. State Department was quick to deny a NEW YORK TIMES report that the talks with Egypt had failed. However, the "denial" was a clumsy one. Under pressure from the facts, the State Department spokesman had to admit that "they were broken off." This happened because the Egyptian side had declared its intention to reconstruct the base itself, that is, it rejected the funds allocated for its modernization by the United States. Noting the political nature of this decision, commentators link it to the fact that the granting of U.S. money was conditional on Cairo's concluding a written agreement which would place the Ra's Banas base in the Pentagon's hands.

Of course, this does not mean that the question of the Red Sea base, which As-Sadat authorized the Americans to use, is no longer on the agenda. Egyptian officials are still saying that the United States can have "military facilities." But recently these statements have been accompanied by conditions and restrictions which prevent the United States not only from establishing control over the base, but even from having access to it. It is no accident that THE NEW YORK TIMES, citing government circles in Washington, writes that the United States will obviously have to look for "opportunities" in other countries instead of Ra's Banas.

PDRY PRESIDENT COMMENTS ON NATIONAL, WORLD ISSUES

PM252010 Moscow NEW TIMES in English No 20 May 83 pp 6, 7

[Interview with 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen, by TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov, in Aden -- no date specified: "South Yemen: Growing Prestige"]

[Text] Twenty years ago, in 1963, a popular uprising began in the Radfan Mountains of South Yemen. The war led by the National Front for the liberation of occupied South Yemen resulted in the overthrow of the almost 130-year British colonial rule and the proclamation of an independent republic.

On the eve of this important date, which will be widely observed in South Yemen, TASS political commentator Yuriy Kornilov, at the request of NEW TIMES, interviewed 'Ali Nasir Muhammad al-Hasani, secretary general of the Yemen Socialist Party, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and premier of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Question: Sixteen years have passed since the last British soldier left Aden, a former British military forepost east of Suez. South Yemen is developing as a free sovereign state. What, in your opinion, is the principal result of this development?

Answer: The most important outcome of the revolution which began 20 years ago is that South Yemen has forever been freed from colonial dependence. After winning political independence in 1967, our people initiated radical progressive changes such as an agrarian reform, carried out in the interests of those who till the soil, nationalization of foreign companies, and development of new economic forms and levers of economic management. As a result, our country has achieved economic independence.

The working people have formed their own bodies of political government and have made signal headway in the building of their own party, the Yemen Socialist Party (YSP), which directs the positive changes in the country on the basis of scientific socialism and proletarian internationalism. The popular democratic nature of the regime has deepened. The national economy is being reorganized in accordance with carefully worked out plans and programmes. Measures have been taken to strengthen the country's defences. New industrial projects are going up in different parts of the republic as envisaged in the main guidelines for economic and social development adopted by a special congress of the YSP in 1980.

The Party's foreign policy course is being creatively pursued and the prestige of the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (PDRY) is growing both in the international arena and in the Arab world. We are building our relations with the neighbouring countries on the principles of peaceful coexistence, good-neighbourship, and mutual respect. Our ties with socialist countries are steadily and successfully developing. They have found their supreme expression in the Treaty of Friendship and Cooperation between the PDRY and the USSR and in the treaties of friendship concluded by our republic with other socialist countries.

The increasing solidarity of the masses in their support of the YSP, and the mounting prestige of the Party, clearly demonstrate the correctness of our policy and the strength of our system. We are fully determined further to consolidate the YSP ranks, raise the Party's vanguard role in society, enhance the principles that help to increase the activity of the masses, and do everything to expand the national economy and build a foundation on which the country's further progress could be ensured and conditions provided for a reunification of our homeland on a democratic basis ensuring the attainment of the goals and principles of the Yemeni revolution.

Question: You have noted the successful development of Soviet-Yemeni cooperation. What, in your opinion, are the prospects of this cooperation?

Answer: Prospects for the development of Yemeni-Soviet relations are very broad, as was emphasized at the special congress of the YSP. The relations between our countries rest on the solid foundation of principle. Both sides stand for the building of a new life and reject exploitation and injustice. Broad Yemeni-Soviet cooperation in the economic, social, cultural, and other fields is also developing on the same foundation. The unselfish aid rendered by the Soviet Union to the PDRY helps to speed our progress along the road of independent development and realization of the tasks posed at the present stage of the national democratic revolution.

Of special importance for the consolidation of relations between our countries are meetings and contacts, also at high level, which open new prospects both for bilateral cooperation and for cooperation in the international arena for the sake of establishing the ideals of peace and detente. For our Party and our people friendship with the Soviet Union is an important guarantee and condition of the successful achievement of the tasks posed by the revolution.

Question: Democratic Yemen has achieved impressive successes during the years of independent development. But, like other countries, it does not exist in a vacuum. It has to reckon with the international situation, which has become still more tense of late.

Answer: That is so. The main trends of the present international situation are marked by a sharp intensification of the global struggle between the forces of peace, with the Soviet Union as their vanguard, and the forces of aggression and war, led by the United States. With deepening of the general crisis of capitalism in the past few years, which has led to unprecedented inflation and higher unemployment, the aggressiveness of the imperialist circles has increased, as has their feverish escalation of the arms race. Calls for a "limited" nuclear war are being heard more and more often, local conflicts between states are being instigated here and there, and attempts are being undertaken to hamper the movement for detente and peace in the world.

Rejecting the constructive proposals of the Soviet Union and the other Warsaw Treaty states for ensuring peace in Europe and other regions, the imperialist circles, mainly the U.S. imperialists, stop at nothing, being ready to embark on any adventure. But they will not succeed in realizing their aggressive designs. The socialist countries are energetically working to preserve peace. Peace is being defended by progressives the world over. The mass peace demonstrations and marches now taking place in Western Europe are vivid proof of the growing public protest against U.S. policy which undermines the very foundations of international security.

The peoples of our region understand full well that the situation in the Middle East has been aggravated by the aggressive imperialist policy of the United States and Israel. The latest war unleashed by Tel Aviv against the Palestinian and Lebanese peoples has completely exposed U.S. imperialism and Zionism, clearly showing them to be the sworn enemies of the Arab nations and world peace. In view of the Middle East situation, characterized by the continuing Israeli occupation of Lebanon and provocations against Syria, we in the PDRY consider it our duty to support, as before, the struggle of the Syrian, Palestinian, and Lebanese peoples, to consolidate our strategic alliance and friendship with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries, and to repel all the provocations and aggressive actions of imperialism and Zionism.

USSR-JORDANIAN RELATIONS VIEWED ON NATIONAL DAY

LD260850 Moscow in Arabic to the Arab World 1530 GMT 25 May 83

[(Nikolay Parsov) commentary from the "Window on the Arab World" program]

[Text] On 25 May Jordan celebrates its National Day, the 37th anniversary of independence, and also Army Day. For years the Jordanian people have been obliged to mark this occasion in circumstances of tension in the Middle East due to the absence of an Arab-Israeli conflict settlement. Jordan is one of those Arab countries that has been exposed to Israeli aggression and it continues to suffer from its effects. Therefore, the Jordanians continue to make firm efforts to establish stable and just peace in the Middle East. To the Jordanians, the main obstacle to this peace is Israel's expansionist policy, its continued aggression against neighboring Arab countries, and its continued efforts to consolidate its presence in the occupied territories and blatantly violate the rights of the Palestinian people.

They denounce official Washington for its support and encouragement of Israeli policy. Last March, the Jordanian paper SAWI ASH-SHA'B wrote that the policy of unconditional and unlimited support has caused harm to the United States as a great power because it is difficult now to define the difference between U.S. and Israeli roles. AR-RA'Y pointed out that the United States has fabricated the so-called communist threat in the Middle East to cover up the Zionist threat that actually exists there.

The U.S. Administration has also put great pressure on Jordan in a new effort to revive the Camp David process within the framework of the so-called Reagan plan which seeks to cement U.S. political and military positions in the Middle East.

It is for this reason that the Americans wanted to impose talks with Tel Aviv on Israel's neighbors so as to conclude a separate peace treaty in the style of Camp David and to put and end once and for all to the 4 million Palestinian peoples' aspiration to set up their own independent state. Despite the fact that the Reagan plan was [word indistinct] to Jordan in particular, the government of that country announced that it would make a final decision only after meetings with the PLO leadership, and will only work in agreement with it.

Now, just as after the meetings that took place in April in Amman, a statement has been published to the effect that Jordan, as before, refuses to negotiate on behalf of the Palestinians and refuses to undertake separate action to bring about peace in the Middle East. The Lebanese campaign -- the show of brute military force that was (?orchestrated) in accordance with the intentions of Israel and the United States -- did not succeed in frightening Jordan or compelling it to boycott the PLO and to agree to separate talks with Tel Aviv and Washington. Jordan is trying to follow the course against separate and capitulatory agreements that was drawn up at the Arab summit conference.

The Jordanian leadership has also supported the Soviet initiative to hold an international conference on the Middle East for implementing a comprehensive and just settlement. The Jordanian leaders have repeatedly expressed high appreciation for the Soviet support for Arab peoples in their struggle against the Israeli aggression. Prime Minister Mudar Badran pointed out that the Soviet Union calls for a comprehensive and just peace; this has a positive impact on the course of developments in the Middle East.

In a statement to the SUNDAY TIMES, King Husayn said that cordial relations based on mutual respect have long been established between Jordan and the Soviet Union. This is indeed true. On an international level both countries adopt common or very close stances on pressing issues, namely the preservation and deepening of detente, the consolidation of world peace and security, halting the arms race, and disarmament. An agreement was signed between the USSR and Jordan on trade exchange, economic and technical cooperation, and periodical [word indistinct]. Several cultural cooperation plans have been coordinated. Tourism between the two countries is also developing and links between social organizations and trade unions are strengthening.

However, the present level of Soviet-Jordanian relations is not an absolute limit. Our two countries have fresh potential for the further development of cooperation in political, cultural, and other fields. This course of developing bilateral relations conforms with the interests of the Soviet and Jordanian peoples and also the interests of world peace.

AFRICA LIBERATION DAY MARKED IN USSR 25 MAY

PRAVDA Editorial

PM251041 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 25 May 83 First Edition p 1

[Editorial: "Africa Struggles and Builds"]

[Text] African Liberation Day, which is marked every year on 25 May, has firmly entered the calendar of portentous international events. It was on that day 20 years ago that the Organization of African Unity was created in Addis Ababa. It united all the independent states of the continent and became the expresser of its peoples' aspirations.

The political map of Africa has changed beyond recognition in recent decades. Not all that long ago it was almost completely covered with the colors of the imperialist mother countries. Now, in the eighties, almost the entire African Continent consists of sovereign states which have liberated themselves. Only in the extreme south -- in Namibia and the Republic of South Africa [RSA] -- have the last bulwarks of colonialism and racism been preserved, and the struggle to liquidate them has been under way for many years now.

The political emancipation of the "Dark Continent," which had remained a colonial "prison of the peoples" until the middle of our century, is one of the most significant results of the national liberation struggle which unfolded following World War II. This truly historic achievement was fanned by the ideas of Great October; it became possible thanks to the strengthening of the forces of socialism and progress in the world arena.

After achieving political independence the African countries set about creating a national economy, eliminating poverty and illiteracy, developing their culture, and solving other urgent problems. They encountered many difficulties along this path, for political independence was not backed up by economic independence. Africa as a whole has remained within the sphere of the world capitalist economy, painfully experiencing all its crises and cataclysms. It is known that the monopolies and the multinationals are endeavoring to surmount their own difficulties primarily at the expense of the developing countries, and they are squeezing out enormous profits by artificially depressing the prices of raw materials and raising the prices of the finished output exported by them. Herein lies one of the main reasons why, despite its vast natural riches -- oil, gas, copper, phosphates, gold, diamonds, uranium -- Africa has remained the most backward continent in terms of its level of development and per capita income.

Africa's share of world industrial production does not exceed one percent, although its population amounts to approximately 10 percent of all mankind. More than a score of African states are classified by UN statistics as among the poorest regions on earth, where millions of people die each year from starvation and a lack of medical assistance. There is an acute shortage of food products. Such are the results of the prolonged colonial rule, the social backwardness, of the inequality in international economic relations practiced by the West, of the plunder to which the Africans are subjected to this day.

Of course, there are African countries -- particularly those of a socialist orientation -- which have achieved impressive changes in creating the bases of a modern industry and a new system of education, and in modernizing agriculture. Such major projects as the metallurgical combines in Ajaokuta (Nigeria), El Hadjar (Algeria), and Helwan (Egypt), the oil refinery in Aseb (Ethiopia), and several others constructed or under construction with the participation of the Soviet Union have become symbols of progress. These enterprises are like the first -- but graphic -- shoots of the industrial development of a continent which is seeking to break out of its economic servitude to the West.

In the current situation enormous importance is attached to the Africans' joint efforts in defense of their economic and political interests, primarily within the framework of the OAU. Recently this organization has been experiencing certain difficulties. For example, on two occasions already it has proved impossible to convene the meeting of heads of state and government of the countries belonging to it. In the past such meetings have taken place annually. The surmounting of these difficulties meets the vital interests of Africa. It is these which demand that its states' unity of action be strengthened by imparting greater effectiveness to it. For to this day the continent has not fully eliminated colonialism; the disgraceful phenomenon of racism has not been eradicated; internecine dissensions and armed conflicts break out which inflict enormous damage. Imperialism has maintained in the south of the continent a bridgehead for aggression against the independent states, and it is trying to draw them into an arms race and involve them in military blocs. Washington stands behind the aggressive onslaughts of the RSA against the neighboring countries, including the recent bandit raid on the capital of Mozambique. The U.S. military doctrine which envisages interference in any region of the world directly threatens the sovereignty of the African states. The Pentagon has in recent times been establishing its bases in east Africa, along whose seaboard sail the American warships which have established themselves in the Indian Ocean.

During the meeting between Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and Angolan President J.E. dos Santos, who visited our country last week, concern was expressed at the persisting tension in the world, and at the dangerous situation which has emerged in some areas. The need was noted for the further activation of the struggle by all progressive, peace-loving, national liberation forces to ease the threat of war, curb the arms race, and strengthen peace and security on earth. The Soviet Union voiced support for the struggle against the imperialist and racist intrigues in the south of Africa and for the granting of independence to Namibia.

The results of the talks held in Moscow by the Angolan delegation and the documents signed here have again shown that the Soviet Union is a friend of the African peoples. It opposes all forms of colonialism, and it renders internationalist aid to the Africans to help them surmount their economic and cultural backwardness and reinforce their statehood and independence.

Our country is on the side of the African peoples struggling for the triumph of the ideals of freedom, independence, and progress.

Kudryavtsev Commentary

PM261037 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 83 Morning Edition p 5

[Political observer V. Kudryavtsev article under the rubric "25 May Is African Liberation Day": "Directed to the Future"]

[Text] In the history of an entire continent 20 years is not a long time, but in respect of modern Africa it has encompassed much. This is precisely how many years separate Africa today from that time in 1963 when in Addis Ababa, the Ethiopian capital, representatives of states which had just become independent set up the OAU and decided to celebrate 25 May as African Liberation Day.

Hardly anyone in Africa at that time could hope that the imperialists would perceive the liberation of African countries as a historically inevitable fact, would "calm down," and even perhaps help those countries, atoning for their colonialist sins.

Right from the start of Africa's liberation imperialism began using the methods of neo-colonialism, advancing to the forefront not administrative-military methods, as previously, but methods of economic exploitation, utilizing the levers of intercontinental monopolies but also saving up -- just in case -- delayed-action mines in the form of tribalism as well as the arbitrary drawing of borders between its former possessions.

The young states' most farsighted leaders foresaw such possibilities and provided for measures against them in the very first decisions of the newly-created OAU. The first assembly of OAU heads of state and government, which met in Cairo (July 1964), solemnly declared that "all member-states pledge to respect the borders which existed when they attained national independence."

History has confirmed that the internal political conflicts weakening the external positions of the OAU as a whole have to a considerable degree been caused by border disputes and that the OAU has fully justified its existence as an instrument for settling them. It is to be hoped that the sober-minded leaders, who, most importantly, take a long-term view of the tasks and aims of independent Africa, will also surmount current conflicts like the Western Sahara conflict. This will still further strengthen the OAU in pursuing its chief tasks, which are vital to all the continent's independent states without exception, namely the complete and speedy purging from all Africa of the vestiges of colonialism, racism, and apartheid. Life shows that imperialists and neo-colonialists succeed, albeit temporarily, where elements of cohesion and anti-imperialist unity grow weak or are lacking. The point is that the enemies of independence and freedom for African states can no longer count on the success of their neocolonialist policy without the backing of internal African reaction or agents of intercontinental monopolies.

Different Starts

In the struggle against imperialism, racism, and apartheid an important role is played by the eradication of tribalism, whose strength must not be underestimated. As life shows, tribalism weakens the internal political positions of African states and reduces the potential for economic and cultural development and the capacity to resist imperialist forces. The special danger of tribalism under the present conditions consists in the fact that the initiators of the intertribal struggle proceed from their own territorially limited interests, disregarding national and pan-African interests. This struggle gives the imperialists considerable potential for interfering in African states' internal affairs on the pretext of establishing order. First place in this respect goes to U.S. imperialism, which on the one hand actually supports tribalism under the sign of encouraging "originality" and, on the other, uses it to interfere on the pretext that it threatens "U.S. vital interests." Such is the U.S. support for tribalist movements in Angola, Mozambique, Zimbabwe, Chad, the Horn of Africa, and other parts of the continent.

Tribalism weakens the African states' rear and creates yet another excuse for uninvited transatlantic patrons to interfere. But, most importantly, it hinders the fulfillment of the chief tasks of independent African states and their organization -- the OAU.

The struggle against tribalism is a difficult task, demanding much effort and time. Its success largely depends on the overall economic and social development of a particular country. Major construction projects in which representatives of all tribes are involved and their joint labor efface tribal boundaries and demonstrate the common goal of all the tribes inhabiting a given state. The task of promoting and training cadres also plays a similar role.

As regards economic and social building, in assessing the African countries' achievements in this respect it should not be forgotten that the start of independent development was far from being the same or uniform in all African states. Some had a more or less developed economic structure, in others the shots of a capitalist economy were only just emerging, in yet others the transition to a feudal economy was being made, and there were even some with a clan and tribal economic structure and barter trade. The sociopolitical regimes were also correspondingly different.

The clan and tribal system existed alongside a feudal monarchy and a republic of the bourgeois democratic type, with a predominance of tribal party pluralism. During these 20 years there have been many political coups in Africa, certain countries which claimed to be advanced have for a while retreated into the past, some countries have been subjected to foreign occupation, and so forth. In short, Africa has not stood still. In addition to studying the experience of other countries and continents, African figures also try to find their own original paths of independent development. The most important thing in all this is progress. African countries have arrived at the OAU's 20th anniversary along different paths of development. Some of them have chosen the path of developing the socialist direction, others are traveling the capitalist path, and yet others are still wavering in their choice.

If one took a superficial approach to the economic development of African countries -- according, moreover, to the "only yesterday" [tolko vchera] principle -- the situation in such countries as the Ivory Coast, Kenya, Gabon, and certain others could produce a definite impression. But the fruits of their development have been enjoyed, above all, by intercontinental monopolies and a narrow stratum of African dealers and politicians. "Only yesterday" because the crisis of the capitalist economy has above all affected precisely these African countries which have always been reserved as a kind of capitalist center of Europe and America. It was always possible to alleviate crisis phenomena somewhat at their expense and, during prosperous years, to add a handsome little amount to monopoly profits. If appropriate measures are not taken, President Daniel Arap Moi of Kenya has said, many African countries oriented on West Europe and the United States "will simply collapse."

Demarcation of Forces

Of course, countries with a socialist orientation are experiencing difficulties too, but they have been caused not by a crisis of the system -- about which the Kenyan president was speaking -- but rather by "growing pains." They -- these countries -- have to radically reorganize the economy, orienting it toward the interests of the broad people's masses. They are subjected to economic sanctions by the U.S. imperialists, and their economies are being devastated in marauding style by South African racists who carry out raids deep into the territory of neighboring countries. But the future belongs to them, for they are backed by the world's progressive forces, the socialist countries, and the Soviet Union. Acknowledging the successes of independent Africa in building a new society, the French journal L'AFRIQUE CONTEMPORAINE wrote that a sober evaluation of the development of the countries of tropical Africa over the past 20 years, since the achievement of independence, does not give grounds for special alarm over its future.

The present U.S. Administration remains true to itself in African affairs too. While creating military bases in East and northeast Africa and supporting the bigoted apartheid regime in South Africa, it wails heart-rendingly about the "Soviet danger" to the African Continent. It regards all progressive new steps by particular African states as showing the "pernicious" influence of Soviet propaganda. It never occurs to the American hegemonists that progressive ideas engendered by life and being realized in life are in themselves the best propaganda. Written and verbal propaganda only facilitates the realization of progressive ideas; it does not create them. So the deliberate propaganda issuing from the United States bursts like a soap bubble on contact with reality.

Whereas in the political sphere the principles of the OAU Charter advanced the aims and tasks of purging the African Continent of the abomination of racism and apartheid as aims uniting all African countries, in the economic sphere the demand for the creation of a new, just world economic order is the uniting factor for all African countries. Under that order the developing countries, including those in Africa, are to have full control of all natural riches in their own national interests. Their commercial and financial relations with capitalist countries are to be equitable and mutually advantageous.

The fact that the U.S. imperialists have frankly and openly recognized the racist South African regime as their friend and ally and the fact that U.S. intercontinental monopolies and the Washington administration stand at the head of Africa's neocolonialist exploitation convince Africa that it has a single enemy -- imperialism headed by the United States. Life itself teaches the Africans that their unity in the spheres of politics and economics is a most important and trusty weapon in the struggle to strengthen independence, for economic and social liberation, for peace and security.

Soviet people follow the African peoples' courageous struggle against imperialism and racism with tremendous attention and sympathy. We are sure that independent Africa will overcome all the difficulties standing in its path to progress and democracy.

Ministry Reception Held

PM251858 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 25 May 83 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report under general heading: "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 24 May the USSR Foreign Ministry held a reception for heads of the diplomatic missions of African states accredited to the Soviet Union to mark Africa Liberation Day.

The guests were welcomed by L.F. Ilichyev, USSR deputy foreign minister. E.C.A. Lang'at, Kenyan ambassador to the USSR, delivered a speech on behalf of the African countries' ambassadors.

BODYUL MEETS WITH LESOTHO'S JONATHAN 19 MAY

PM251344 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 May 83 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "In a spirit of Mutual Understanding"]

[Text] A meeting was held on 19 May between I.I. Bodyul, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and L. Jonathan, prime minister of the Kingdom of Lesotho, who is making a stopover in Moscow.

During the talk, which was held in a spirit of friendship and mutual understanding, there was a discussion of questions of Soviet-Lesotho relations and of some international problems.

SHEVARDNADZE INTERVIEWED ON LEADERSHIP QUALITIES

PM181315 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 May 83 First Edition p 2

[Interview with E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee, by PRAVDA special correspondents V. Kozhemyako and G. Lebanidze in Tbilisi, date unspecified: "The Leader's Authority" -- carried under rubric "Party Life: Discussions About What Perturbs People"]

[Text] Without authority there can be no true leader. On what is authority based? Deliberating on this subject, the writers of letters to PRAVDA speak of ideological conviction, competence, the ability to organize and educate people, lofty moral qualities....

To produce authoritative leaders is an important task of party organizations. The extent to which they are successful in coping with this task determines to a considerable extent the fate of our economic and social plans drawn up by the 26th CPSU Congress.

Many letter writers have shown interest in the Georgian party organization's experience of work with cadres. This is the subject of our correspondents' interview with E.A. Shevardnadze, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and first secretary of the Georgian Communist Party Central Committee.

[Question] When people talk of an "authoritative leader," who among your republic's personnel do you think of first, Eduard Amvrosiyevich?

[Answer] Many of them. During the last decade, when work has been developed to implement the well known CPSU Central Committee resolution on the work of the Tbilisi party gorkom, hundreds of authoritative people promoted by the republican party organization and deservedly enjoying respect among the people became leaders. This can be said to be the first guarantee of success. The creative atmosphere which the Georgian CP Central Committee tries to establish everywhere produces skillful, ideologically tempered, and morally pure leaders. On the other hand, such personnel insistently develop a collective innovatory quest.

To give an example, nowadays, the whole country knows of the experiment which started several years ago in Abashskiy Rayon. Guram Davidovich Mgeladze, first secretary of the party raykom, was one of its initiators. He arrived in the rayon, one of the most backward ones, with the firm intention of achieving a breakthrough. He managed to rouse people, make them follow him, and awaken their initiative. The result of the collective creativity was the formation of a production association -- the prototype of today's rayon agroindustrial associations -- and the rayon became one of the leading rayons. G. Mgeladze was recently appointed chairman of the republican Committee for Agricultural Production. A natural promotion for an authoritative and respected worker....

Of course, the establishment of authority requires constant dedication. Anyone who is not capable of this has no place among the leaders. Here is a typical fact: When we started reorganizing our work following the resolution on the Tbilisi gorkom, several ministers and party raykom secretaries handed in their resignations. They realized that the new, far more complicated tasks were beyond their powers. They were replaced by personnel whose authority is bolstered day by day by major actions. I would like to name the first secretaries of Poti Gorkom and of Sagaredzhoyskiy Raykom, Bakuri Gulua and Medeya Mezvrisvili; the first secretaries of Bogdanovskiy Raykom and Gagra Gorkom, Vasilii Kochoyan and Enver Kapba; the chairman of Goriyskiy Rayon Agroindustrial Association, Valeriy Khutsishvili.... It would take a long time to name them all.

[Question] It is well known that much is being done in the republic to democratize the promotion of personnel to leadership positions and to take more fully and broadly into account the opinion of primary party organizations and labor collectives regarding people who are promoted. Does this help to recruit to the leadership really the most authoritative people?

[Answer] It helps a lot, in our view. There are fewer mistakes in promotion and there are more guarantees that the person who is entrusted with leadership will fulfill his obligations properly. Now more than 40 percent of production commanders are promoted via labor collectives and, if we take the grassroots link -- foremen and team leaders -- the figure is about 95 percent.

When it became necessary to strengthen the leadership of the republic's Gossnab, A. Buadze, director of the Tbilisi electric locomotive construction plant, was one of several suggested candidates for the office of chairman. We decided to consult the collective. This led to several days of active and interested discussion on the shop floor. There was talk not only about his merits, but also about the director's shortcomings, and he was offered remarks, suggestions, and wishes. He took all this into account at his new place of work. And he is not losing touch with the plant. Later he returned and delivered a report at the enterprise.

The same can be said about Minister of Local Industry D. Kublashvili, who was promoted from the post of director at the Rustavi metal structures plant. The enterprise collective constantly monitors how he fulfills his instructions. This permanent link with the workers and their exigent demands help to justify the trust.

[Question] Protectionism is one of the negative phenomena in the placement of cadres, and it still makes itself felt in some places. Tell us, please, how the republican party organization is combating it.

[Answer] There was a time when nepotism, favoritism, and localism were widespread in our republic. Promotion "by wire-pulling" rather than on the basis of a man's real attributes -- what could be more contrary to Leninist principles? The Georgian CP Central Committee adopted a special resolution on the struggle against protectionism. It instructed that a reliable barrier be placed everywhere against this evil and that not a single manifestation of it be left without a strict party assessment.

In a word, I can confidently say that now lovers of protectionism are thoroughly under siege. But vigilance cannot be lowered. Throwbacks to the past still occur. Here is a case for you: An executive of our Central Committee apparatus telephoned a party raykom and ordered that a friend of his, an unworthy man who had already compromised himself, be "set up" as chairman of the rayon potrebsoyus. When this became known, an immediate decision was taken. There is no place for such a man either in the Central Committee or in any leading work at all. And he was punished to teach others a lesson, so to speak.

This is not an isolated case. Secretaries of party raykoms and gorkoms and ministers have been punished for protectionism; they were immediately dismissed from their posts.

In relations with relatives and friends, perhaps even more so than with anyone else, it is necessary to be absolutely principled and consistent. Principledness is necessary everywhere -- both in public life and in personal life. There is not and there cannot be a dividing line here. I saw this for myself yet again when I became first secretary. It was only then that I patiently explained to them that they would not get the slightest privilege or any indulgences at all.

At one point I learned that a party raykom was being besieged by a man calling himself a relative of mine; he was demanding help for a dishonest friend. I had to investigate, and then the man who had speculated on someone else's name was -- not without my participation -- expelled from the party.

However, we must make the proviso at this point that family ties should not deprive anyone of, so to speak, the "right to life" and the chance to enjoy promotion and to occupy a certain position in society. But this must all be done exclusively according to merit, on the basis of person's political and professional qualities, rather than out of family considerations and a desire "to do a relative a good turn."

[Question] There is a well known saying that authority does not come with the job. But surely you have to first possess some authority in order to take up a particular post and then confirm by your actions your right to the post? One person appointed to a leadership position enhances his authority even further, while another gradually loses it. In your opinion, does this depend on the leader's personality, on his entourage, or on some other factors? How should a leader be educated so that inactivity and irresponsibility have most inevitable impact on his official position and on his authority?

[Answer] Inactivity and irresponsibility must not be tolerated. In implementing the CPSU Central Committee resolution on the Tbilisi Gorkom, in the first 7 years we had to dismiss from office about 300 republican level personnel, over 250 of them for slack work and 48 for breaches of party and state discipline and party ethics.

Of course, a job in itself does not provide authority. Certain prerequisites are needed to enable a man promoted to a leadership position to rise to the occasion. Systematic work with the cadre reserve helps the better study of people. We give the future leader the opportunity to get on-the-job training and to work as an understudy -- that is, to learn the specifics of the job. From then on, the main thing is up to him. How he treats matters and his comrades at work, how he behaves.

I can't help comparing two fates. Almost simultaneously, some 3 and 1/2 years ago, O. Bokeriya was promoted to first secretary of the Gardabanskiy party raykom and G. Koblianidze was promoted to republican minister of trade. Initially, there was much in common between them. They were almost the same age, both were candidates of sciences, both had been through economic school and had done party work. But when they were promoted matters developed differently.

Gardabanskiy Rayon is increasingly (firmly acquiring the reputation of a leading rayon in the republic: It is fast increasing its contribution to the Food Program and is firmly steering a course toward doubling output. The raykom first secretary is skilled in organizing harmonious collective work and instills in people a creative attitude toward work. And I can see his authority growing more and more noticeably.

Recently we had to replace the minister of trade. He was a failure, although he seemed to have the prerequisites for successful work. And why did he fail? To put it briefly, he did not manage to win authority in the apparatus and in the sector. He often took decisions single-handedly, did not take into account people's opinion, and showed inconsistency in his actions.

In such cases there always emerges the question: Where was the primary party organization, with its right to monitor the activity of the administration or the work of the apparatus? After all, it is especially close to the leader, and the duty of communists is to correct him in good time, to advise him, to prompt him.

I think that we must enhance the role of the basic party links in the formation of leaders, as was correctly said at the recent all-union scientific and practical conference in Tbilisi devoted to primary party organizations.

[Question] You must agree, Eduard Amvrosiyevich, that authority can be either real or imaginary. Some people want to appear in the best light at any cost and even stoop to improper methods.

[Answer] Unfortunately, this is so. Recently V. Kharebava, director of the Kutaisi Automobile Plant, was dismissed from work and severely punished. Write-ups had come to light at that enterprise. In other words the director, as you said, tried to appear in the best light, and the method he used was impermissible.

Write-ups and eyewash are a serious evil. Someone wants to gain underserved authority by fraudulent methods. Can this be tolerated? Under no circumstances! We wage a determined struggle against those who take this slippery road. There is no indulgence for them.

For example, we were forced to dismiss from work and expell from the party A. Margalitashvili, chairman of the Telavskiy Rayispolkom. He is a well known man in the republic. He was a very good chairman of a famous kolkhoz. In his new post, however, he could not resist the temptation to acquire glory in a dishonest way. He had to answer for it; past services did not shield him from just punishment. Now the republican prosecutor's office is dealing with the matter of the write-ups.

[Question] A leader's attitude toward criticism, especially criticism from below.... The letters received by PRAVDA contain quite a few thoughts and facts on this subject. What could you say to the writers of these letters, on the basis of your own personal experience.

[Answer] It is necessary to learn to take criticism correctly. We must all learn this. The mentality of many people is such that, while criticizing others, they frequently react very sensitively to criticism against themselves. However, no man is without shortcomings. And we must thank those who draw our attention to these shortcomings, and we must create in each collective an atmosphere conducive to healthy comradely criticism.

Let me speak of a collective like our Central Committee Bureau. We were not criticized much at plenums. Not because there were no reasons or grounds. It's just that it is the custom. So 3 years ago we decided to hold a bureau session without an agenda. Just so that we ourselves could critically analyze our work. We thought that 90 minutes would be sufficient. However, we started at 1800 hours and finished at 0100. It was a very frank and useful discussion. People said what they thought.

Since then sessions "without agenda" have become regular events in our republic. A need for them had emerged! Twice a year we gather for a personal analysis of our own work. The reports at Central Committee plenums now contain more self-criticism by Bureau members and secretaries, and the debates are more critical. Especially typical was the recent plenum which discussed a report on the work of the Central Committee Bureau and Secretariat.

Criticism heals people, it helps them correct themselves. I remember how serious shortcomings were revealed in the work of B. Shindzhiashvili, first secretary of the Gurdzhaanskiy party raykom. He is a dilligent and educated man, but he took hasty decisions and at times approached cadres questions subjectively. At a Central Committee Bureau session we told him about everything that had come to our notice. We did not, however, limit ourselves to this.

The Bureau instructed me to convene a raykom plenum. I will not forget that discussion. Very principled speeches were made by 25 people. The main thought was: we respect you very much, comrade Raykom First Secretary, but we cannot continue working this way. All the indications are that he took his comrades' criticism correctly. There are already changes for the better.

An atmosphere of principled criticism, as people say, without respect of persons, is in the interests of a leader. This must be understood. Such an atmosphere does not allow people to stop. This means that it ultimately works for our authority. The opposite also applies: where there is no criticism, matters inevitably end up in a deadlock.

In this connection I would like to mention the dangerous phenomenon of toadyism. I believe that it is no less harmful than the suppression of criticism. Why think an seek, if toadies say everything is already wonderful? It is like a drug for weak people. Although sweet words are pleasing to the ear, a leader must find within himself the firmness to call things by their names and to tell a toady that he is a toady.

[Question] A leader, like anyone else, can make a mistake. "In your view, does a public admission of a mistake lower or enhance his authority?"

[Answer] It would of course be better not to make mistakes. But people have observed correctly that only someone who does nothing can avoid making mistakes. Life is life and, given its complexity, mistakes cannot unfortunately be excluded. So what to do if you make a mistake? No, I think otherwise: Admit the mistake and, in Bolshevik fashion, speak openly about it. In the name of real authority.

Some time ago republican Finance Minister P. Ananiashvili was dismissed from office, expelled from the party, and tried. Earlier, following an audit at the ministry, the Central Committee Bureau had received alarm signals about him. There were suggestions that he be relieved of leadership. Nevertheless, I felt that the grounds were not sufficiently weighty. Furthermore, I had known that man for many years as a skilled and experienced worker. In other words, I spoke in his favor. And, as was shown later, I made a grave mistake. I had to admit this frankly from the rostrum of a Central Committee plenum and the aktiv meeting.

[Question] How do you, as a leader, benefit from meetings with working people and their letters?

[Answer] Without this it is simply impossible to work. We have tried to establish in the republic a system which obliges every leader to meet regularly with the working people, speak to them, and answer their questions. For example, all Central Committee members and leading workers from other party committees conduct party study sessions in labor collectives. I too have such an assignment. I lead a class on the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism at the electric locomotive construction plant. There are about 30 workers in the class. I strive to share with them my knowledge, my experience. But they also give much to me. You see, the classes take place in a most informal atmosphere. People speak of what perturbs and concerns them, and make suggestions for improving our common work. How can you replace such direct contact?

I hold regular receptions for working people and regularly read the letters received by the Central Committee. These too are threads linking us to life. Thus, letters suggested a major question for discussion at a Central Committee Bureau session -- the state of the republic's medical services.

As a followup to letters, we also discussed the question of amenities in Tbilisi's new Gldanskiy Rayon. Actually, there are many similar examples. But what is disturbing is this: only 7 percent of the mail we receive raises issues directly within the Central Committee's competence. The other 93 percent can and must be resolved locally. Yet they are not resolved. What does this indicate? Work with complaints and petitions is still not organized as it should be in much of the republic. It has to be seriously improved.

[Question] The republican party organization is steering a consistent course toward enhancing the authority of decisions. This, of course, also represents concern for the authority of leading organs and every leader. What would you say in this connection?

[Answer] The effectiveness of any decision is determined by the end result. In the past 10 years production has increased 200 percent in the republic's industry and more than 150 percent in agriculture. Since 1971 Georgia's share in the country's national income has increased by billions of rubles.

But, while pleased with the achievements, we think more about the present problems. They are large in scale and highly complicated. The principled stipulations of the November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenum, which marked a turning point and a qualitatively new stage in the strengthening of organizational and political work, and all the fundamental statements of Comrade Yu.V. Andropov require an even more profound approach toward resolving the set tasks. This necessitates the concentration of all efforts and the ability to act efficiently and to show greater persistence in affirming the Leninist style of work.

Life teaches us how hard it is to acquire authority. It is gained through hard work, but just one incorrect step is sufficient to lose it. We will remember this. We will instill in every leader a sense of high responsibility to the people he is entrusted with leading, to the party and the people.

DOLGIKH ATTENDS AWARD CEREMONY IN BELGOROD

Arrival Noted

LD201637 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 20 May 83

[Excerpts] Belgorod is festively bedecked today. A solemn meeting of the town party committee and the town Soviet of People's Deputies devoted to the presentation of the Order of the Great Patriotic War, First Class, to Belgorod, has opened in the Palace of Culture of the industrial center's major enterprise, the power machine-building enterprise. Vladimir Ivanovich Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the Party Central Committee, has arrived in Belgorod to present the award.

Itinerary of Activities

PM231430 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 May 83 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "Stay in Belgorod Oblast"]

[Text] Belgorod, 21 May -- Improving the efficiency and quality of work on the basis of the improved organization of labor and management and the strengthening of labor discipline -- these and other questions associated with further developing the oblast's economy were discussed today at a meeting in the CPSU obkom with V.I. Dolgikh, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

It was noted that the most important task is to launch a struggle to utilize all available potential to improve economic activity speed up scientific and technical progress and the growth of labor productivity, increase production, and improve the quality of output. The people of Belgorod are fully determined to augment their contribution to increasing the efficiency of the national economy.

V.I. Dolgikh laid flowers at the V.I. Lenin monument. Wreaths were laid in Revolution Square at the eternal flame lit in memory of Soviet servicemen who died for the motherland's freedom and independence, and at the memorial complex "to the Heroes of the Kursk battle."

During meetings with workers, specialists, and economic leaders at the Oskol Electro-metallurgical Combine and the Stoyly Mining Enrichment Combine V.I. Dolgikh inquired about progress in building facilities and assimilating production capacities, about the delivery of articles and equipment on schedule, and about how the construction of housing and cultural and consumer facilities is proceeding.

In Belgorod he visited the power machine building plant named for the 60th anniversary of the USSR, the M.V. Frunze Kolkhoz and enterprises in the service sphere.

He was accompanied on his tour of the oblast 19-21 May by A.F. Ponomarev, first secretary of the CPSU obkom, and N.A. Surkov chairman of the oblispolkom.

Award Ceremony Address

LD202042 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1500 GMT 20 May 83

[Text] A joint festive session of the gorkom, the gorispolkom, and representatives of party, administrative, and public organizations, devoted to the presentation to the city of the Order of Patriotic War, Class, took place in Belgorod today.

The meeting was addressed by Comrade Dolgikh, candidate member of the Politburo and secretary of the CPSU Central Council, who was warmly welcomed by those present.

He said: [Begin recording] Permit me, on behalf of the CPSU Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the USSR Council of Ministers to congratulate warmly you and all the city's working people on the homeland's high award and to wish you fresh successes in your work, robust health, and happiness. [applause]

Comrade Yuriy Valdimirovich Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee has requested that his cordial congratulations and very best wishes be conveyed to the participants in the festive session, war and labor veterans, and all people of Belgorod [applause]

The Order of the Patriotic War, First Class, which worthily marks the martial and labor services of the people of Belgorod, is presented to the city at a significant time for Soviet people: in the year of the 40th anniversary of the Soviet Army's historic victory in the battle of the Kursk bulge and the liberation of Belgorod from the fascist invaders. On this festive day I would like to pay a deeply respectful and most cordially grateful tribute to the veterans of the Great Patriotic War and of the labor front, who in the harsh war years discharged their sacred duty to the homeland with honor to the end of the war. [applause]

It is pleasant to note that also today they are making a contribution, are conducting large-scale useful work, and are educating the young generation in the glorious, revolutionary, combat and labor traditions of the Soviet people. Honor and glory to you, dear comrades! [applause]

Permit me, comrades, to express the conviction that the city party organization and the working people of Belgorod will make every effort and use all their experience for the successful fulfillment of the decisions of the 26th party congress and of the November 1982 Plenum of the CPSU Central Committee, and will also in the future make a worthy contribution to the cause of communist construction. [applause; end recording]

Comrade Dolgikh read the decree of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium on the conferring upon Belgorod of the Order of the Patriotic War, First Class and, to stormy applause, pinned the award to the city's banner.

The war veterans, commanders, front ranking workers, and party officials who spoke at the meeting, expressed cordial gratitude to the party's Central Committee, the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, and the Soviet Government for the high award and gave the assurance that the workers of the city and the oblast will make every effort and use all knowledge and experience for the fulfillment of the plans of 1983 and the 5-year plan period as a whole.

CPSU POLITBURO GREET'S RETIRING OBLAST OFFICIAL

LD250604 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0800 GMT 24 May 83

[Text] A plenum of the Dagestan Obkom to examine the question of organization took place in Makhachkala today. The plenum released Comrade Umakhanov from the duties of obkom first secretary in connection with his retirement on account of his state of health. Comrade Usupov, who worked as chairman of the Dagestan ASSR Council of Ministers, has been chosen as obkom first secretary.

The CPSU Central Committee Politburo expressed its gratitude to Comrade Umakhanov, member of the CPSU Central Committee for his conscientious work for the good of the party and people.

KRASNAYA ZVEZDA REPORTS DEATH OF KGB CAPTAIN

PM241056 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 24 May 83 First Edition p 4

[Unattributed, untitled announcement]

[Text] The Main Directorate and Political Directorate of the USSR KGB announce with deep regret the sudden death of Capt 1st Class Aleksey Alekseyevich Fedorov, member of the CPSU since 1955, and express condolences to the relatives and friends of the deceased.

SOVIET OFFICIAL OUTLINES TASKS OF TU ORGANIZATION

LD231459 Moscow TASS in English 1355 GMT 23 May 83

[Text] Moscow May 23 TASS -- The Soviet trade unions, affiliating 132 million, take direct participation in discussing the draft new legislation on work collectives, said secretary of the Central Council of the Trade Unions of the USSR Vitaliy Provotorov. Speaking at a press conference for Soviet and foreign journalists, held here today, he noted that the bill itself, providing for enhancing the role of work collectives in managing enterprises, was drawn up with the participation of the broadest public organization -- the trade unions. The bill is now being discussed all over the country. A total of 1,200,000 meetings were held at plants, factories, cooperatives, and institutions. At the meetings about 6 million people submitted their proposals and remarks for the bill.

All of them are being sent to the legislative bodies of the Soviet Union to be studied, said Provotorov.

In the USSR, he said, trade unions actively participate in managing production, in social undertakings. They enjoy the right of legislative initiative. Adopted, by their proposals, were such legislative acts, as, for instance, the provision on the right of the trade union committee at enterprises, the provision on the procedure of the discussion of labour disputes. Soviet trade unions participate in drafting all decisions on questions of labour and wages.

Answering questions of journalists, Vitaliy Provotorov said that one of the main tasks of the Soviet Trade Unions is to work for perfection of production, growth of labour productivity. He dwelt on implementation of measures aimed at mechanisation and automation of labour, which help reduce a shortage of labour force in the country.

GOVERNMENT ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION CONVENES

PM120745 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 30 Apr 83 p 2

[TASS report: "Commission Session"]

[Excerpts] On 28 April a routine session of the USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission on Environmental Protection and the Rational Use of Natural Resources examined the question of the measures adopted by the USSR Ministry of Power and Electrification, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry, the USSR MVD, the USSR State Committee for Forestry, and the RSFSR Council of Ministers for environmental protection and the rational use of natural resources during the construction of the Boguchanskaya GES.

The conference also examined the question of the development of cooperation between the USSR and the CEMA countries in the sphere of environmental protection and the rational use of natural resources. Mention was made of the great work that is being done by ministries and departments to fulfill the common detailed program of cooperation among the CEMA countries in 1983-85 in the sphere of protecting and improving the environment.

The state Committee for Science and Technology, in conjunction with the ministries and departments concerned, has been instructed to take measures to increase the efficiency of that cooperation.

The session was addressed by I.T. Novikov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the commission.

AUTHORITY OF RELIGION IN SOVIET UNION DISCUSSED

'Dwindling Influence'

LD240049 Moscow in English to Great Britain and Ireland 1900 GMT 23 May 83

[Talk by Boris Belitskiy in the "Vantage Point" program]

[Text] In a talk on religion in the Soviet Union, broadcast over the BBC some time ago, I was astonished to hear that there are 166 million believers in this country. Not 165 million, nor 167 million, but precisely 166 million to make it sound more credible. This is, of course, an absolutely ridiculous figure dreamed up by the BBC in an effort to blow up the influence of religion in the Soviet Union out of all proportion.

The true number of religious believers in this country is much much smaller and it keeps declining. The latest sociological studies in the country show that the number of active believers doesn't exceed 10 percent of the adult population. This puts it at well below 20 million people.

At the end of the thirties, on the other hand, roughly two-thirds of the village population and one-third of the townspeople were still churchgoers. So you can see, the influence of religion is declining. What's more, the most socially active groups of the population, such as the skilled workers, the intellectuals, and young people, have broken with religion almost completely.

Elsewhere in the British media I've come across the acknowledgement that the influence of religion is indeed declining in the Soviet Union but that the drop in the number of churchgoers is the result of administrative pressures rather than free choice. A British tourist, too, spoke to me as having heard stories to this effect in Britain.

This is not so at all. Freedom of conscience is the law of the land in this country and is enshrined in its Constitution. Why then has the number of believers and with it the hold of religion been declining steadily? First of all the 1917 socialist revolution helped millions of formerly downtrodden people to adopt a more active attitude to life; to feel that they have a part to play in shaping the country's history. With this came the feeling that they can cope with their problems without faith in the supernatural. The years of socialist construction fortified this sense of confidence among the people, undercutting the influence of religious beliefs even more. But the biggest factor of all has been cultural progress which has made widespread ignorance and illiteracy a thing of the past.

It's these factors and not administrative pressures that have brought about the drop in the number of churchgoers in the Soviet Union. True, there have been occasional attempts at hastening this process by administrative measures locally and it would be foolish to deny that. Naturally the Western media have pounced on such cases and exaggerated them out of all proportion, but what they failed to report was that the Soviet authorities have been quick to censure all such local aberrations and to correct them to the extent of instituting prosecutions in a few places, as the Communist Party journal KOMMUNIST reported not so long ago.

In short, the dwindling influence of religion in this country is the result of a logical process set in motion by scientific education, cultural progress, and general enlightenment.

'Antistate Activity'

LD231023 Vilnius in Lithuanian to North America 0000 GMT 21 May 83

[Commentary by historian Jonas Anicas: "Clerical Extremism -- Sources, Content and Aims"]

[Excerpts] In the political strategy of the present imperialist reaction, special attention is paid to religious organizations which operate in the socialist countries. The imperialist subversive centers try to arouse and develop extremist movements in these organizations and use them for the destruction of socialist society. We will examine here clerical extremism in the Lithuanian Catholic Church; we will expose its sources, forms of expression, and its contents.

What are the sources of clerical extremism? Clerical extremism is the extreme behavior of the clergy in the life of society. In Lithuania, extremists of the church have the concrete task of carrying out ideological [word indistinct].

Both clericalism and its extreme form -- extremism of the church -- have no social base in our society. Thus, in Lithuania after the establishment of the socialist system, the economic, social, political and ideological conditions prevailing at a time when the church, according to Lenin, was regarded as being above the state, as eternal and of divine origin and higher than the temporary earthly order, have disappeared. After the separation of church from state, the church retained only the functions of satisfying the religious needs of believers. Clericalism has lost its social base. [passage indistinct].

But there are still examples of the relapse of political clericalism in Lithuania. This has been and is nothing but an attack by reactionary individuals against the socialist system in the guise of defense of religion.

How is the relapse of political clericalism encouraged in the Lithuanian Catholic Church? There are both internal and external causes of this phenomenon. In the not so distant past clericalism had deep roots in the country's economic, social, cultural and ideological life.

In bourgeois Lithuania, the Catholic Church owned large estates, banks, and factories, and was enjoying privileges and material support. Therefore, the categorically negative attitude of clerical circles of this church toward the [word indistinct] secularization of state and society is understandable.

During the Hitlerite invasion, many clergymen supported the pro-Nazi [word indistinct] of the church leaders of that time. After the war some of them, starting with Professor Ragauskas at the Kaunas Seminary, influenced by the new life, understood the fruitlessness of their chosen path, resolutely broke off their ties with religion and the church and joined an active creative toil.

Such a situation is not to the liking of Western imperialist circles who endeavor to carry out the strategy of internal erosion of the socialist society. Individual servants of the cult and some believers are influenced by anticommunist propaganda. We will talk next time about the basic sources of clerical extremism.

UNION REPUBLIC CADRE TRAINING COURSE HELD

PM191026 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 18 May 83 Morning Edition p 2

[Unattributed report: "Leading Cadres' Studies"]

[Text] Courses for leading cadres of the union republic state committees for labor and social problems and for prices and of republic offices of the USSR Gosbank have ended at the National Economic Management Institute of the USSR Council of Ministers Academy of the National Economy.

Chairman of republic departments and their first deputies spent one month studying urgent questions of economic theory, the practice of communist building, and improving management and the economic machinery in the light of the decisions of the 26th party congress, the CPSU Central Committee November (1982) Plenum, and the propositions and the conclusions advanced in the speeches of Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee.

During the lectures and the seminar practical and extramural studies, the students familiarized themselves with the use of modern means and methods of management and planning; exchanged experience of work on improving the economic machinery; on making rational use of labor and material resources; and on problems of pricing, money circulations, and credit; visited industrial enterprises and exhibitions of progressive experience; and participated in the scientific and practical conference "Karl Marx and the Present Day."

The students were addressed by N.K. Baybakov, deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR Gosplan; N.T. Glushkov, chairman of the USSR State Prices Committee; V.S. Alkhimov, chairman of the USSR Gosbank Board; La.A. Kostin, first deputy chairman of the USSR State Committee for Labor and Social Problems; N.P. Lebedinskiy, deputy chairman of the USSR Gosplan; N.N. Smelyakov, USSR deputy minister of foreign trade; Yu.M. Buzulukov and P.I. Simush, executives of the CPSU Central Committee apparatus; Academician Ye.P. Velikhov, vice president of the USSR Academy of Sciences; N.N. Nekrasov, N.P. Fedorenko, and T.S. Khachaturov, academicians of the USSR Academy of Sciences; P.G. Bunich, V.V. Laptev, and Yu.S. Shiryayev, corresponding members of the USSR Academy of Sciences; and professors and lecturers of the academy.

ORIENTAL STUDIES CONFERENCE OPENS IN BAKU

Eastern Studies Role Examined

LD251958 Moscow Domestic Television Service in Russian 1300 GMT 25 May 83

[From the Vremya newscast: Mamedov video report with shots of speakers including Bagirov addressing the conference]

[Text] An all-union conference of experts on the East opened in Baku today. Colleagues from abroad are taking part in the conference along with Soviet scientists. The conference will examine the role and tasks of contemporary Eastern studies in the study of Asian and African countries. The conference will examine the socioeconomic, ideological, historical, cultural and international relations of the states of the East and the tasks of Soviet Eastern studies in researching these relations.

The conference noted that solidarity with states that have liberated themselves from colonial oppression, with peoples who defend their independence was and remains one of the fundamental principles of our country's foreign policy. The achievements of Soviet Azerbaijan, those who spoke stressed, constitute convincing proof of the mighty creative forces of socialism, an inspiring example for the young states and peoples of Asia and Africa struggling for social and national liberation.

Comrade Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, spoke at the conference.

Officials Attending

GF260736 Baku Domestic Service in Azeri 0105 GMT 26 May 83

[Text] The third scientific conference on Oriental studies began in the amphitheater of the Azerbaijan RFSR [as heard] Academy of Sciences in Baku yesterday.

Kyamran Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee; Kurban Khalilov, chairman of the Presidium of the RFSR Supreme Soviet of Azerbaijan; Gasan Seidov, chairman of the Presidium of the RFSR Council of Ministers of Azerbaijan; Rudol Yanovskiy, deputy chief of the CPSU Central Committee Science and Educational Institutions Department; Fikrat Akhmedov, deputy chairman of the Presidium of the RFSR Council of Ministers; Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, chairman of the All-Union Society of Orientalists and director of the Oriental Studies Institute of the RFSR Academy of Sciences; [name and title indistinct]; Vafa Gulizade and Afrand Dashdamirov, chiefs of Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee departments; Gasan Abdullayev, president of the Azerbaijan RFSR Academy of Sciences and (?corresponding) member of the RFSR Academy of Sciences; and other Orientalists from Moscow, Leningrad, and other fraternal republics and foreign countries have been elected to the chairmanship council of the conference.

Academician Primakov opened the conference. Kyamran Bagirov, first secretary of the Azerbaijan Communist Party Central Committee, was asked to address the meeting. Academician Primakov addressed the conference on Soviet oriental studies and the obligations in that field.

The conference is continuing its work on various aspects of oriental studies.

TURKMEN IDEOLOGICAL WORKERS MEETING HELD

GF231728 Ashkhabad TURKMENSKAYA ISKRA in Russian 13 May 83 p 1

[Text] The tasks for further developing the ideological and political upbringing work in light of the recommendations of the all-union meeting of ideological workers held on 18 March 1983 were discussed at the republic meeting of ideological workers which was held in Ashkhabad on 12 May. The secretaries of the party obkoms, gorkoms, and raykoms involved with questions related to ideological work; heads of the Komsomol, trade union organs, the ideological ministries and departments, mass information media, and chiefs of the departments of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee were invited to the meeting.

M.M. Mollayeva, secretary of the Turkmenistan Communist Party Central Committee, presented a report. It was noted during the meeting that the party committees are taking measures to develop the ideological and mass political work in light of the decisions of the 26th CPSU Congress, the 22d Congress of the Turkmenistan Communist Party, the May and November 1982 CPSU Central Committee Plenums, and the remarks and results contained in the speech of Yu.V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the USSR and in his article entitled "The Teaching of Karl Marx and Some Questions of Socialist Construction in the USSR."

At present the capabilities of the party committees are directed at strengthening the connection between propaganda and life, at spreading socialist emulation for increasing the effectiveness of social output and labor quality and labor productivity. During the meeting special attention was paid to the fact that propaganda and agitation should be concretely, convincingly and closely connected with the CPSU social and economic policy and that they should be truthful, realistic, interesting and intelligible.

The participants in the meeting exchanged work experience and made a number of suggestions aimed at deepening the contents and at strengthening the effectiveness of ideological and political upbringing work.

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT DATA FOR JAN-APR PUBLISHED

PM231523 Moscow EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA in Russian No 21 May 83 (Signed to Press 16 May) p 4

[Unattributed Report: "USSR Industry in the First 4 Months of 1983"]

[Text] The EKONOMICHESKAYA GAZETA editorial office has received the following USSR Central Statistical Administration figures on the results of industry's work during January-April 1983.

The volume of industrial production during January-April 1983 increased by 4.4 percent against the corresponding period last year.

Labor productivity for the same period increased by 3.6 percent.

The January-April plan for the volume of output sales was fulfilled by 102 percent. The plan was fulfilled by all industrial ministries and union republics.

The indicators of production activity by individual ministries are shown by the following figures:

All-Union and Union Republic Ministries and Departments	Percentage Fulfillment of January-April Output Volume Plan	January-April 1983 as Percentage of January- April 1982	
		Production Volume	Labor Productivity
Power and Electrification	100.7	102	99
Oil Industry	101	102	99.4
Oil Refining and Petro- chemical Industry	100.7	103	103
Gas Industry	103	106	105
Coal Industry	101	102	99.3
Ferrous Metallurgy	103	104	103
Nonferrous Metallurgy	101	105	104
Chemical Industry	102	104	104
Production of Mineral Fertilizers	102	110	108
Power Machine-Building	103	104	102
Heavy and Transport Machine- Building	102	104	104
Electrical Equipment Industry	102	108	107
Chemical and Petroleum Machine-Building	102	108	108
Machine Tool and Tool- Building Industry	103	106	105
Instrument-Making, Automation Equipment and Control Systems	103	106	107
Automotive Industry, Tractor and Agricultural Machine-Building	103	107	106
Machine-Building for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production	102	111	107
Construction, Road and Municipal Machine-Building	104	105	105

Machine-Building for the Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances	102	107	107
Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood-Processing Industry	102	105	106
Construction Materials Industry	102	105	105
Light Industry	100.4	100.9	102
Food Industry	103	106	106
Fruit and Vegetable Farming	107	111	109
Meat and Dairy Industry	104	109	108
Fish Industry	106	105	105
Procurements	103	103	102
Medical Industry	101	108	107
Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry	104	118	114

For machine-building ministries, the Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry, the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry, the Ministry of Procurement and the Main Administration of the Microbiological Industry, which have fully transferred to the planning and assessment of activity in terms of net normative output, the figures are cited in accordance with the plan in terms of this indicator.

Cited below are the figures for union republics (including industry under union jurisdiction):

Republic	Percent Fulfillment of January-April Output Sales Plan	January-April 1983 as Percentage of January-April 1982 in Terms of Production Volume
RSFSR	101	104
Ukraine	102	104
Belorussia	103	105
Uzbekistan	102	105
Kazakhstan	102	104
Georgia	102	106
Azerbaijan	102	105
Lithuania	103	106
Moldavia	103	117
Latvia	103	103
Kirghizia	102	103
Tajikistan	103	102
Armenia	102	104
Turkmenistan	103	106
Estonia	102	105

Production of the main types of output totaled:

	Production		January-April 1983 as Percentage of January-April 1983
	April 1983	January to April 1983	
Electricity -- billion kilowatt-hours	114	495	103
Oil (including gas condensate) -- million tons	50.9	204	102

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Gas -- billion cubic meters	43.3	178	107
Coal -- million tons	61.1	247	100.3
Steel -- million tons	12.8	50.7	103
Rolled Ferrous Metal Products (finished) -- million tons	8.8	35.2	102
Steel Pipes -- million tons	1.6	6.2	106
Iron Ore -- million tons	20.5	80.6	102
Mineral Fertilizers (in terms of 100 percent nutrient -- million tons	2.5	10.0	111
Chemical Plant Protection Agents (in standard units) -- thousand tons	47.0	191	103
Sulfuric Acid -- million tons	2.0	8.3	106
Synthetic Resins and Plastics -- thousand tons	369	1,473	107
Chemical Fibers and Yarns -- thousand tons	114	441	104
Tires -- millions	5.3	21.1	100.8
A.C. motors -- million kilowatts	4.5	17.9	102
Metal-cutting Machine Tools -- million rubles	182	720	105
Including those with numerically program control -- thousands	46.9	189	115
Forging and Pressing Machines -- million rubles	52.4	219	107
Automatic Manipulators with Program Control (industrial robots) -- thousands	0.6	2.3	161
Instruments, Automation Equipment and Spares -- million rubles	360	1,431	106
Computer Equipment and Spares -- million rubles	257	1,006	112
Petroleum Equipment -- million rubles	17.2	71.3	102
Chemical Equipment and Spares -- million rubles	68.9	275	106
Manufacturing Equipment and Spares for the Light and Food Industry -- million rubles	134	524	107
Mainline Diesel Locomotives -- thousand horsepower	335	1,303	105
Mainline Electric Locomotives -- thousand horsepower	322	1,295	103
Mainline Freightcars -- thousands	4.8	20.0	98
Tractors -- thousands	47.9	192	100.7
Agricultural Machinery -- million rubles	291	1,152	107
Machinery for Animal Husbandry and Feed Production -- million rubles	201	799	107
Grain-harvesting Combines -- thousands	9.7	39.2	109
Excavators -- thousands	3.6	14.1	97
Timber (excluding small wood pro- curements) -- millions trimmed cubic meters	18.6	110.2	100.1
Paper -- thousand tons	475	1,878	106
Newsprint -- billion square meters	2.6	10.2	103

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USSR NATIONAL AFFAIRS
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENTS

Cement -- million tons	10.6	41.8	107
Precast Ferroconcrete (excluding production of subsidiary enterprises) -- million cubic meters	9.1	35.6	104
Fabrics of all types -- billion square meters	1.0	3.9	103
Knitted Outerwear and Underwear -- millions	139	555	100.6
Leather Footwear -- million pairs	65.4	259	101
Meat (from state raw material resources) -- million tons	0.6	2.8	109
Sausage Products (from state raw material resources) -- thousand tons	242	969	100.8
Edible Fish Products, including Canned Fish -- million rubles	506	1,951	111
Animal Oil (from state raw material resources) -- thousand tons	108	321	125
Wholemilk Products in Terms of Milk (from state raw material resources) -- million tons	2.3	8.9	107
Margarine Products (from state raw material resources) -- thousand tons	135	536	106
Vegetable Oil (from state raw material resources) -- thousand tons	220	953	108
Clocks and Watches -- millions	5.8	23.4	101
China and Earthenware -- million rubles	73.8	293	105
Radio Receivers -- millions	0.8	3.1	107
Television Sets -- millions	0.7	2.8	104
Of which color sets	0.3	1.1	113
Refrigerators and Freezers -- thousands	494	1,991	100.2
Including those with a capacity of 200 liters and above	238	935	106
Washing Machines -- thousands	357	1,405	108
Cars -- thousands	111	438	100.8
Motor Cycles and Motor Scooters -- thousands	95.4	381	100.2
Furniture -- billion rubles	0.6	2.3	105

The results of industry's work between January and April have been summarized. The output sales volume plan for industry as a whole was 102 percent fulfilled. All union republics and industrial ministries have successfully coped with the overall output volume targets.

The production plan was fulfilled for the majority of the most important types of output. A considerable quantity of gas, coal and iron ore has been extracted and a considerable quantity of metal products, mineral fertilizers, tires, industrial robots, instruments, automation equipment, computers, manufacturing equipment for the light and food industry, agricultural equipment and many consumer goods and food products have been produced above the plan since the beginning of the year.

The overall volume of industrial production increased by 4.4 percent in comparison with January-April last year and labor productivity in industry increased by 3.6 percent in comparison with the same period. Some 84 percent of the production increase was obtained by increasing labor productivity, whereas in such sectors as the petroleum refining and petrochemical industry, the electrical equipment industry, the chemical and petroleum machine-building industry, instrument-making, the timber, wood processing and pulp and paper industry, light industry, and the food industry and fish industry, all or virtually all the increase in production was obtained by increasing labor productivity.

All industrial ministries have fulfilled the 4-month plan for the production of consumer goods per ruble of the wages fund. The association and enterprise plans for that indicator for January-April have been fulfilled in all union republics.

The overall volume of consumer goods production (in retail prices) increased by 4 percent in comparison with the corresponding period last year. The output of fabrics rose by 3 percent during that period, non-fabric materials by 17 percent, leather footwear by 1 percent, food products by nearly 6 percent, and cultural, consumer and household goods by 4 percent.

Costs per ruble of commodity output fell by 0.5 percent in comparison with the first quarter of last year, with a fall of 0.4 percent in material costs.

At the same time there were considerable shortcomings in the development of individual industrial sectors. The Ministry of the Petroleum Refining and Petrochemical Industry failed to secure the planned diesel fuel production level, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry failed to secure the planned synthetic resins and plastics production level, the Ministry of the Electrical Equipment Industry failed to secure the planned A.C. motors production level, the USSR Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper, and Wood Processing Industry failed to ensure the planned round timber and lumber production level, and the USSR Ministry of Light Industry failed to ensure the planned woolen fabric and knitted outerwear production level. Over 50 percent of associations and enterprises in those ministries failed to ensure the supply of output to consumers according to the contract and order schedules. The following ministries failed to meet the targets for increasing the production and supply to trade of the relevant consumer goods and necessities: the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry had a shortfall in toilet soap and household soap production; the Ministry of Machine Building for Light and Food Industry and Household Appliances had a shortfall in automatic and semi-automatic washing machine production; and the Ministry of the Chemical Industry had a shortfall in household chemical goods production.

Associations and enterprises of the USSR Ministry of Ferrous Metallurgy, the Ministry of Heavy and Transport Machine Building, the Ministry of Power Machine Building and the USSR Ministry of the Food Industry permitted a considerable excess in material costs in comparison with the level envisaged by the plan for the first quarter.

The production of output at capacities belonging to the Ministry of Mineral Fertilizer Production's Azot Association in Kemerovo, the Ministry of the Timber, Pulp and Paper and Wood Processing Industry's Lyaminskiy Wood Shavings Combine, the Ministry of the Construction Materials Industry's Polimerstroymaterialy Plant in Leningrad and the Armenian SSR Ministry of the Light Industry's knitwear factory in Kirovakan -- capacities which were commissioned in late 1982 -- has not been well organized.

At a session on 20 April this year, the USSR Council of Ministers made it incumbent upon USSR ministers and department leaders and union republic Councils of Ministers to formulate and implement measures to ensure the fulfillment and overfulfillment of plan targets and of labor collectives' socialist pledges for 1983. Special attention was drawn to meeting the targets for increasing labor productivity, strengthening state, labor and plan discipline and fulfilling contractual obligations for output supplies. It is planned to increase the production, broaden the range and improve the quality of consumer goods, improve the organization of trade and increase the population's consumer services.

The elimination of the existing shortcomings in these questions and the mobilization of reserves at each labor collective and work station provide the basis for the successful completion of the targets for 1983 and the 5-year plan as a whole, and the main condition for fulfilling the task set by the party is to make consistent the trend toward improvement that has been noted in the basic economic indicators.

RAILROAD OFFICIAL ON ROLLING STOCK MAINTENANCE

LD221227 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 0805 GMT 22 May 83

[Excerpts] One of the most important tasks now in railroad transport is to raise the level of repairs and maintenance of rolling stock. In this respect, the initiative of a number of enterprises in the capital, which decided to ensure that every railroad car and container dispatched from Moscow is in good condition, is having a great effect. How is this valuable initiative spreading? Our correspondent invited Leonid Vasilyevich Shovskiy, member of the Ministry of Railways Collegium and chief of the Main Administration for Rolling Stock, to speak about this:

[Begin recording] Purposeful work to spread the initiative of the Moscow workers has enabled the achievement of positive results in improving the rolling stock. Throughout the country, 4,361 enterprises are engaged in routine maintenance of cars, and 814 in the maintenance of containers. Since the start of the year, we calculate that 114,372 cars and 38,918 containers have been overhauled.

[Question by unidentified correspondent] Is that a lot or a little, Leonid Vasilyevich?

[Answer] Well, we think that it's still not enough. The figure for the first quarter should have been around 200,000. But if we speak of who is in the forefront, then it is, as before, the Moscow enterprises and organizations served by the Moscow Railroad.

The initiative by the Moscow workers has not been taken up properly in Maritime Kray, Vladivostok and Nakhodka, particularly in the ports there. The required level of activity in this matter is not being shown by the chiefs of the Far Eastern Railroad. There is insufficient organization of work to overhaul cars and containers at industrial enterprises served by the Stavropol and Mineralnyye Vody branches of the North Caucasus Railroad. Such enterprises as the Taganrog combine works, under the Ministry of Tractor and Agricultural Machine Building, avoids doing routine maintenance work, even though it has all the facilities for doing it. It's a colossal plant, as I know very well. It is served by the North Caucasus Railroad. There is also the Ekibastuzugol Association, which is in the area of the Tselin Railroad, and a number of other enterprises.

[Question] Leonid Vasilyevich, could you say why, in your opinion, this initiative has not spread everywhere? What is preventing the valuable Moscow initiative from spreading?

[Answer] First and foremost it is due to the lack of a sufficient quantity of materials and spare parts. Unfortunately, we are still unable to ensure full supplies of these to our industrial enterprises, and not even our own repair and maintenance enterprises are supplied with a sufficient quantity. We are greatly dissatisfied with supplies from the timber industry and from other organizations, and this is why there is the problem. A number of enterprises could be making spare parts for us. They themselves could make them, even from waste products. I think that if good work were to be done on a reciprocal basis, such difficulties could be eliminated. [end recording]

FOOD PROGRAM GOALS, IMPLEMENTATION DISCUSSED

SELSKAYA ZHIZN Editorial

PM251131 Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 24 May 83 p 1

[Editorial: "Nationwide Concern"]

[Excerpt] The year that has passed since the CPSU Central Committee May Plenum has shown that ever greater attention is being paid to the implementation of Food Program tasks not only in kolkhozes, sovkhozes and the other links of the agro-industrial complex, but also in all sectors of the national economy. The realization of its provisions is a truly nationwide cause.

Questions of the development of the agro-industrial complex, and above all its pivotal link -- agriculture, are constantly at the focus of attention of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and Secretariat. The November (1982) CPSU Central Committee Plenum assessed the first steps in implementing the Food Program, noted the selfless work done by rural working people under last year's complicated weather conditions, and once more drew the attention of agro-industrial complex members to ensuring that the efforts of working people and the means allocated to the agro-industrial complex produce a return for the country today, and an even greater return tomorrow.

Now it is especially important to organize matters in each labor sector so as to ensure steadier growth rates in food resources. There must be fewer references to the weather and more specific and daily concern to increase arable yields and livestock unit productivity. Even under complicated weather conditions, the farmers in Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Armenia fulfilled the plan for the first 2 years of the 5-year plan period in terms of gross agricultural output. Satisfactory growth in comparison with the average annual indicators for the previous 5-year plan period has been achieved by many oblasts in the Russian Federation, the Ukraine, Belorussia and Kazakhstan, as well as Georgia, Tajikistan and Turkmenistan. At the same time, there are serious shortcomings and errors in the utilization of production capacities, land and manpower resources in a number of republics, krais and oblasts. There are quite a few kolkhozes and sovkhozes which are lagging behind the 5-year plan targets for the production of grain, sugar beets, meat, milk and other output. It is necessary to carry out more actively the social restructuring of rural areas.

A huge complex of measures concerning questions of developing agriculture and implementing the Food Program was outlined in the speech by Comrade Yu. V. Andropov, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, at the 18 April 1983 conference of first secretaries of union republic communist party central committees and party kraykoms and obkoms. During that conference, the party once again drew the attention of cadres and all working people to ensuring that the questions linked with the Food Program are resolved everywhere promptly, efficiently, exactly, and in a businesslike fashion. Furthermore, the emphasis must be placed on improving the style of work, intensifying the monitoring of the fulfillment of decisions, and enhancing party, state and labor discipline.

This year, which is crucial for the entire 5-year period, has been started by rural working people and their partners in the agro-industrial complex under more favorable economic conditions.

New purchase prices have been introduced for agricultural output together with markups, and the material incentives for rural working people are increasing. New management organs are gathering strength in rural areas. All this is having a positive impact on our economic affairs. It is important to lend a stable character to this incipient trend toward an improvement in the basic economic indicators.

Rural working people's arsenal contains quite a few tested means of struggle for the unconditional implementation of the projected plans. One of these is the skillful utilization of the achievements of science and leading experience, material and technical means, and cadre resources. First and foremost, it is a matter of the general introduction of zonal farming systems, the mastering of crop rotations, the broad application of industrial techniques and efficient methods of soil cultivation, the use of industrial working methods in livestock breeding, and the skillful utilization of reclaimed lands. It is necessary to introduce the collective contract widely and boldly in fields and livestock units. All means of increasing the efficiency of agricultural production must be set in motion!

Rural working people and their partners in the agro-industrial complex are now faced with an especially large volume of work; spring sowing is drawing to an end in the fields, feed procurement is already underway in many places, and people are actively preparing for the harvest. Efficient and persistent work by each collective and by every working person at his position -- these are the most reliable guarantees for fulfilling the state plans and successfully implementing the Food Program.

Gosplan Official Interviewed

PM251047 Moscow SOTSIALISTICHESKAYA INDUSTRIYA in Russian 24 May 83 p 1

[Interview with G. Rudenko, chief of the USSR Gosplan Consolidated Department of the Agro-industrial Complex, under the rubric "Interview on the Issue": "Program in Action" -- date, place not given]

[Text] It is 1 year since the CPSU Central Committee May (1982) Plenum approved the USSR Food Program. What has been done and is being done today to realize it?

G. Rudenko, chief of the USSR Gosplan Department of the Agro-Industrial Complex, replies to the editorial office's questions:

Question: Georgiy Petrovich, what is the chief feature of the first year of realizing the Food Program?

Answer: This has been an organizational stage, a year of reorganizing the agro-industrial complex for the new conditions of management. The foundations have been laid for organizational, scientific, technical and economic cooperation among the sectors belonging to this complex. At the same time, measures have been taken to ensure an increase in agricultural production in the very first year of implementing the Food Program.

Question: A reorganization of the management of the agro-industrial complex was outlined in the Food Program. What has been done during this year?

Answer: As is known, a USSR Council of Ministers Presidium Commission for Questions of the Agro-Industrial Complex has been set up. Similar commissions have been organized in the union republics. They coordinate the activities of ministries and departments whose enterprises belong to the agro-industrial complex, and they monitor their fulfillment of state plans.

Agro-industrial associations have been formed in Oblasts, krays and autonomous republics, and rayon agro-industrial associations have been formed at the local level. Their organization is practically complete. In all, 3,157 rayon agro-industrial associations have been organized. At the same time, more than 3,000 trusts and other managerial subdivisions have been abolished. The size of the managerial apparatus has been reduced by more than 100,000 people.

As the recent CPSU Central Committee Politburo session pointed out, the implementation of these measures has made it possible to considerably strengthen the rayon link, simplify management, and bring it close to production. And it must be said that many rayon agro-industrial associations have already proved themselves well. In a number of rayons they dealt successfully with spare parts, ensured the timely and good quality repair of equipment, and organized well the wintering of livestock and the preparations for and implementation of the sowing campaign. This was achieved chiefly thanks to better utilization of existing resources.

But in some places the organizational period has dragged on unjustifiably. The councils of certain agro-industrial associations work unenterprisingly, do little to tackle questions of improving economic relations among components of the agro-industrial complex, and do not devote proper attention to coordinating their activity.

Question: What are now the main features in improving management of the agro-industrial complex?

Answer: It is very important to help the new managerial organs choose the correct directions of work, gain strength more quickly, and to tackle in a businesslike manner the resolution of the main questions of the development of the enterprises belonging to the complex. These management organs have been afforded great rights. These must now be utilized sensibly in order to strengthen discipline and the mutual responsibility of partners and coordinate and direct their efforts toward better providing the population with food. And for this it is necessary, above all, to assimilate a really businesslike workstyle and set up businesslike relations with those sector ministries which have not yet reorganized themselves along agro-industrial association lines. And they must now revise and improve their general management programs so as to give more economic potential to territorial organs, which have a better knowledge of the local operational situation and can better resolve current questions.

Question: The CPSU Central Committee May plenum set machine-builders the task of increasing production and improving the quality of agricultural machinery and equipment. What measures have been taken in this direction?

Answer: They were formulated in the well-known CPSU Central Committee and USSR Council of Ministers resolution. These measures are now being realized consistently. To judge from the results of the first 4 months, machine-building ministries have secured a substantial increase in the production of equipment for the countryside and, in the main, ensure the delivery of spare parts. The most important task now is to really improve the quality and reliability of agricultural machinery. And, as is known, there are many problems here. Take grain-harvesting combines. It frequently happens that a new combine delivered to a farm has to be taken apart and reassembled and thereby made operational.

Question: Providing agriculture with reliable equipment and machine systems is just one aspect of the matter. It is no less important to organize their efficient utilization.

Answer: That is true. In recent years the material and technical base of agriculture has been substantially broadened and strengthened. However, the mighty potential is not always utilized efficiently. This applies particularly to costly energy-intensive equipment. The storage, repair and maintenance base is developing only slowly. These questions were discussed at the CPSU Central Committee 18 April conference. Specific measures were outlined to enable this matter to be rectified without delay.

Question: What is being done to improve the economic machinery of the agro-industrial complex?

Answer: Work is being carried out in two directions. First, the economy of kolkhozes and sovkhozes is being strengthened, and the system of planning and economic incentives for agricultural production is being improved. Second, measures are being taken to improve cooperation among sectors of the agro-industrial complex. Proposals drawn up by USSR Gosplan with the participation of interested ministries and departments on the procedure for planning agro-industrial production at all levels of management were approved recently. The new procedure will make it possible to better combine territorial, sectorial and the targeted program methods of planning and will help to regulate supplies of material and technical resources to all enterprises of the complex. But mainly the real possibility is emerging of directing their work not toward interim, departmental results but toward the end results.

Question: The inequitable economic relations between kolkhozes and sovkhozes and the industrial enterprises serving them have given rise to many complaints. What measures have been and are being taken to adjust their relations?

Answer: Indeed, there are many shortcomings here. Some of them are being eliminated. In particular, the evaluation of the activity of enterprises of the State Committee for the Supply of Production Equipment for Agriculture, the Science and Production Association for Agrochemical Services to Agriculture, and water resources organizations is being made dependent on the end result -- the increase in agricultural output and the reduction in expenditure on rendering services to kolkhozes and sovkhozes. Proposals have also been drawn up to regulate economic relations among agricultural and procurement enterprises. A most acute question is how to organize a centralized system for the procurement of agricultural output. The problem here is a very specific one: Specialized transport has to be transferred from farms to procurement organizations. This is a complex process which cannot be hurried. It is proposed that the system of centralized procurements will finally take shape toward the end of the 5-year plan, when there will be an improvement in the situation regarding roads, refrigerator facilities and storage bases for agricultural output.

Question: The purchase prices of basic kinds of agricultural output were raised on 1 January this year, and markups were established for products from farms under the worst natural conditions. How have these measures affected the resolution of the food program?

Answer: Above all, they have created favorable conditions for enhancing the interest of rural labor collectives in increasing production and sales of output to the state. Take the results of the first 4 months. The high increases in production and purchases of basic livestock products are striking. Kolkhozes and sovkhozes sold the state 334,000 tons more livestock and poultry than during the first 4 months of last year. Milk sales increased by almost 2.3 million tons, and egg sales by 787 million eggs.

Question: Many industrial enterprises have vigorously joined in implementing the Food Program, not only in their own field, so to speak, but also in the direction of developing subsidiary farms. What are the results of this work?

Answer: On the whole they are positive. There are now approximately 9,000 more such farms than there were 3 years ago. Some of them are already meeting the collectives' food requirements to a considerable degree. However, proper attention is still not being devoted everywhere to this important work. In order to activate the development of subsidiary farms and improve their productivity, it is planned to increase deliveries of equipment and mineral fertilizers to them. Material assistance in the construction of hothouse facilities, livestock-raising units and storehouses for fruit and vegetable produce will be extended.

In conclusion I wish to emphasize that the main thing now is to consolidate and develop the positive changes which have become apparent in the work of the agro-industrial complex. The primary task is to strengthen plan and labor discipline directly in the collectives and enhance the personal responsibility of leaders and specialists and of every working person in the agro-industrial complex. It is necessary to utilize more effectively what already exists, not forgetting that this is the decisive year for the entire 5-year plan as a whole.

RSFSR GOVERNMENT VIEWS FRUIT, VEGETABLE OUTPUT

PM181456 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 14 May 83 First Edition p 2

[Unattributed Report: "Strict Monitoring of Reserves; At the RSFR Council of Ministers"]

[Text] Last year, for the first time in several years, the sovkhoses of the RSFSR Ministry of Fruit and Vegetable Industry fulfilled the plan for the sales of vegetables to the state. The plan was exceeded by 270,000 tons. As against the previous year, 25 percent more potatoes, 42 percent more vegetables and 32 percent more fruit were put in long-term storage.

However, despite annual increases in the allocation of material and financial resources for the development of the agro-industrial complex, the ministry failed to achieve a qualitatively new level in the supplies of fruit and vegetable products to the population. The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium, examining the results of the financial and economic activity for the Ministry of the Fruit and Vegetable Industry, noted serious shortcomings in the work of the ministry's apparatus and its sovkhoses and processing enterprises and pointed out the still poor utilization of major reserves. Great losses of output are being incurred in harvesting, transport and storage. Vegetable seed-growing is poorly attended to, serious errors are committed in the application of agricultural techniques, and the utilization of reclaimed land and fertilizers is unsatisfactory. For this reason, yields on many farms remain low. Shortcomings in the organization of the procurement of fruit and vegetable output and in delivering it in good mix have not been eliminated.

The RSFSR Council of Ministers Presidium also examined a question pertaining to the Bashkir ASSR soviet, water resources, and agricultural organs' work in developing land reclamation and boosting the efficiency of land reclamation measures. It was noted that the assimilation of capital investments allocated to land reclamation is unsatisfactory and that the yields from irrigated fields and meadows are increasing too slowly. Measures to improve the organization of procurement, reception and storage of raw leather were also discussed at the session. Resolutions were adopted on the questions under discussion. They indicate specific ways to eliminate shortcomings and to utilize better reserves which, as is emphasized, must be strictly monitored.